

SOUVENIR  
STAMPS  
P. 36

# THE AMERICAN **LEGION**

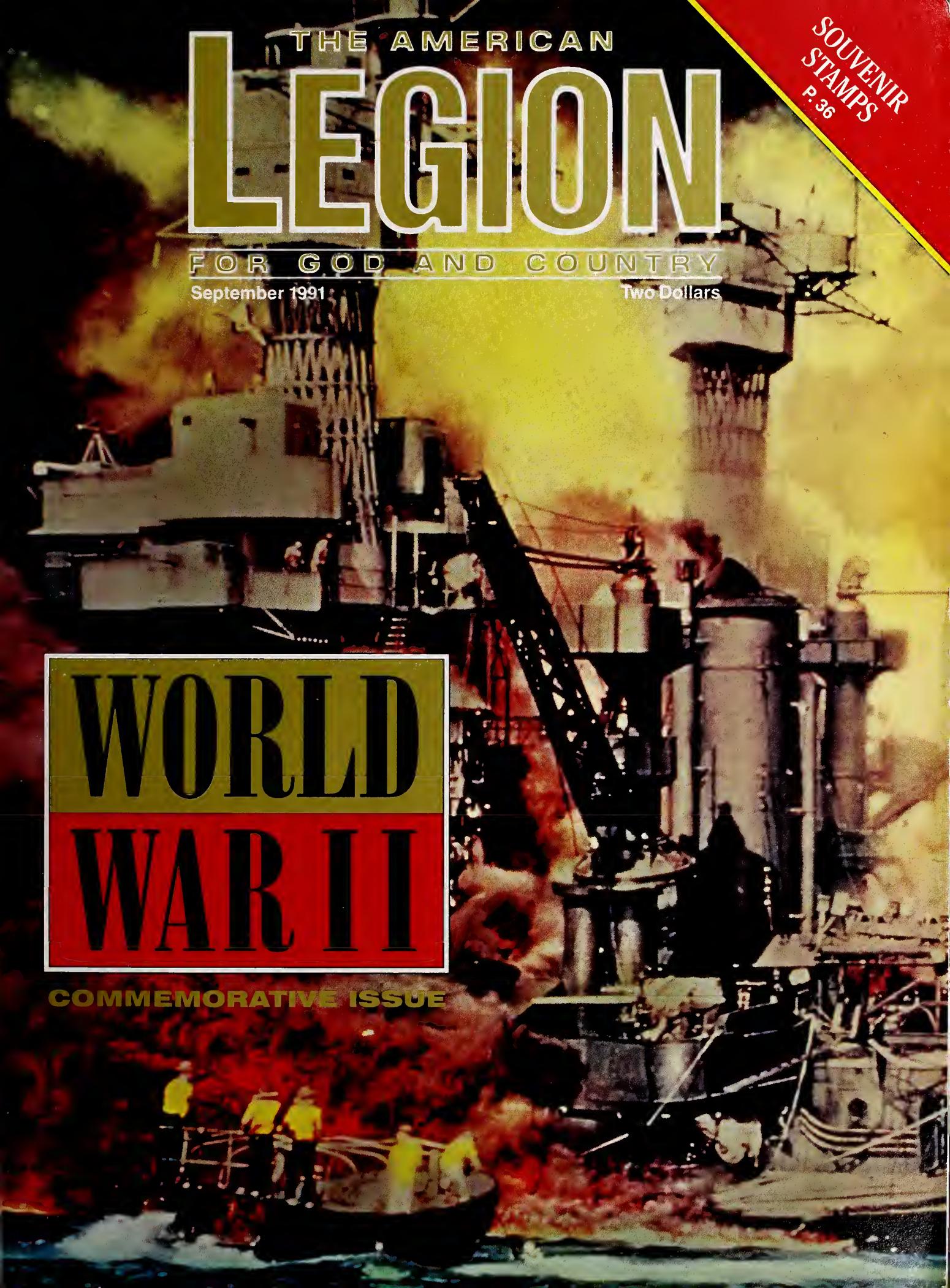
FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

September 1991

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COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE



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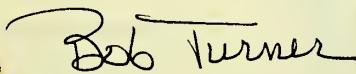
1941

1945

**I**t is impossible for the Nation to compensate for the services of the fighting man. There is no pay scale that is high enough to buy the services of a single soldier during even a few minutes of the agony of combat, the physical miseries of the campaign, or of the extreme personal inconvenience of leaving his home to go out to the most unpleasant and dangerous spots on earth to serve his Nation."

Gen. George C. Marshall, 1945

In this spirit, The American Legion dedicates this special 50th anniversary commemorative issue to those Americans who served, fought and died in the Second World War. Their courage, resolve and sacrifices will always be remembered.



ROBERT S. TURNER  
National Commander  
The American Legion

# THE AMERICAN LEGION

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Vol. 131, No. 3

September 1991



FOR  
CORREGIDOR  
S

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FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

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**T**he beloved Colt .45. It brings back memories for every American who ever, in his youth, wore a uniform. Trusty. Reliable. Powerful. You probably fired it for familiarization, qualified with it or used it in combat... maybe to save your life or that of a buddy.

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But times change. This proud workhorse is being

replaced by a smaller 9mm pistol, so we can fire the same ammo as our NATO allies. If you or a family member served in World War II, the .45 is the symbol of your time, your day and your age.

### Authorized by The American Legion

Now, to honor the 50th Anniversary of World War II, The American Legion, Colt's Manufacturing Company, Inc. and The American Historical Foundation are proud to present a history-making firearms collectible, The American Legion World War II Victory Commemorative .45.

In the field of arms collecting, this is an important "first"—the *first* time The American Legion has ever authorized the issuance of a commemorative .45. As such it is in the "first ever" class of distinction—a category that has seen well-documented price increases over the years.

To further enhance investment value, only 2,500 will be made. Each bears a special collector edition number between 0001 and 2500 with the prefix "AL" for American Legion. This is also inscribed on the Certificate of Authenticity.

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grips, finished to presentation grade and inset, on both sides, with a special cloisonne medallion bearing the American Legion symbol.

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**W**HEN the call went out for you to send us your most vivid memories of World War II, the response was overwhelming. More than 1,400 letters arrived. Some made us cry, others made us laugh, but most of all, many made us very proud of our membership in The American Legion and our vow to "preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars." Thank you for sharing them with us. They were the best of times; they were the worst of times. They were your times.

## The Beginning

Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941, 8:50 a.m., I was only 19, setting up a .30-caliber machine gun. The Jap aircraft came strafing our three-story barracks. Cement was flying and glass shattered. We were firing away when our company commander came over from officers' quarters.

"What's wrong with you men?" he said. "This is an air maneuver." Just as he spoke, a Jap plane skimmed across the rooftops with a burst of machine gun bullets flying everywhere. The CO said, "Give 'em hell, men," then looked at me and asked, "What happened to you, Kunes? Did you get hit?"

I'd been hit about six hours ago on the North Shore when my buddies and I got into a fight with some native Hawaiians and Japanese at a dance. We got back to the barracks about 7 a.m. It was a rough day, Sunday morning, Dec. 7, 1941.

Malcolm D. Kunes  
Blanchard, Pa.

## The Long Haul

At morning roll call, Dec. 8, 1941, at Fort Knox, Ky., the sergeant addressed us with, "All right you yardbirds, you thought you were in for a year. Now it's for the duration. Get with it."

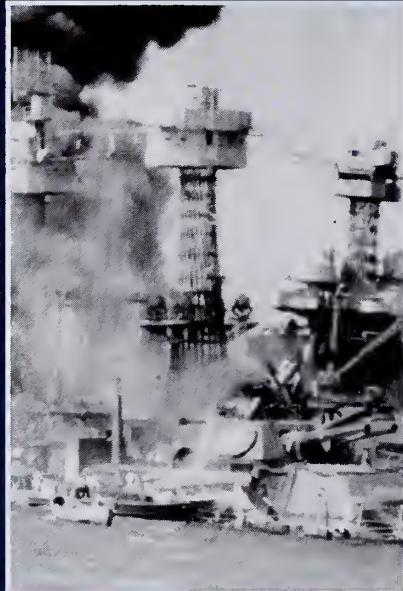
Harry Brewer  
Webster, N.Y.

## At Sea

I was U.S. Navy, quartered with three other gun crew members aboard a merchant tanker in the North Atlantic in late October 1942, when general quarters was ordered. Our ship had been torpedoed in the engine room, and we began to sink fast. The aft lifeboat was already gone and there was no way to

# REMEMBER

# WHEN



DEPT OF DEFENSE

DEC. 7, 1941—For Americans, the war began the day Pearl Harbor was attacked by the Japanese.

get amidships to the remaining lifeboat. As we pondered the situation in our "Mae West" lifejackets, a shipmate told me he couldn't swim. Before I could tell him there was no place to swim to, I was washed overboard. I never saw him again.

Fifteen minutes later, I spotted a large, empty life raft and prayed, struggled, swam and finally climbed aboard. Five hours later, a beautiful Canadian escort vessel rescued me.

Alfred E. Smith  
New Paltz, N.Y.

## On Land

We crossed the English Channel to land at Omaha Beach. The ship in front of us sank, and there were no survivors. As we approached the shore, a tank on

our left rolled into deep water. It was bedlam. The noise of battle, the wounded and dying soldiers screaming for medics, and the dead lying like scattered sticks of wood. We rode the jeep into cold water as officers screamed, "Keep moving!" I remember going up that hill and never looking back. It was a terrible, frightening experience and our first taste of combat.

Clarence A. Johns  
Potasi, Mo.

## Brush With A Hero

We were in a wooded area south of Colmar Pocket in 1944. I was an aid man with the 3rd Division when the Germans caught us and began lobbing white phosphorus mortars. I was treating some of our men when I heard someone call for a medic. My patient had caught a sniper bullet which had penetrated the fleshy part of his buttocks. He was a brand-new, 20-year-old second lieutenant. I asked him if he wanted to be taken down the hill, but he said, "No, hand me my carbine. I'll stay here."

Forty-three years later, I learned from his widow that most of his buttocks were cut away because of gangrene. He went on to earn many decorations and a Medal of Honor. His name was Audie Murphy.

John J. Sayeski  
Whittier, Calif.

## A Buddy's Epitaph

I remember a huge tree on Guadalcanal. Our patrol had hacked through jungle and finally reached a clearing that allowed a glimpse of the sky. It was "fought-over" ground, littered with shell casings. A dirt mound and the tree above it caught my attention. Someone who had lost a buddy and grieved had fashioned a living monument. In the bark he'd carved his pal's name and the words of John 3:16: "For God so loved the world . . ."

And then he buried his friend between the roots.

David Slater  
New York City

## New Life

I was a member of a tank crew with the 4th Armored Division on Feb. 15, 1945, when a radio message announced there was a telegram for me. They said they would drive by and throw it to me.

# TRY A FREE SAMPLE



THE  
**STRONGEST**  
HOLD  
OF ANY  
DENTURE  
CREAM  
ADHESIVE  
PLUS  
THE  
**FRESHEST**  
FEELING

It read: "Congratulations, you are the father of a healthy baby boy, 7 lb., 5 oz., named William R. Richter III." It was more than a year before I saw him, but it will always be the most vivid memory I ever have.

William R. Richter Jr.  
Winter Haven, Fla.

## Yankee Know-how

The 17th Airborne jumped near Wesel, Germany, in March 1945, as part of the Spearhead Invasion across the Rhine River. We had no vehicles, but that evening we captured a German half-track. One tire was flat and a large hole had been shot in the radiator, but my captain said if I could figure out how to drive it, he would sit up front with me. That night when we moved out, the engine overheated. We stopped at a farmhouse for water, but found only milk, which we poured into that hot radiator. Never have I smelled anything like that hot, sour milk as we drove on through the night carrying men, ammunition and two artillery guns.

Eugene G. Dickens Sr.  
Charlotte, N.C.

## A Leader Falls

In 1945, I was 18 and serving in the Coast Guard as a radio operator aboard the cutter *Raritan* off the coast of Greenland. While on duty the following uncoded message came through: "Our Commander and Chief is dead. President Roosevelt died this day."

Tears flowed as I relayed the message to our captain. I believe his passing was the motivating force behind the U.S. and Allies' ultimate victory.

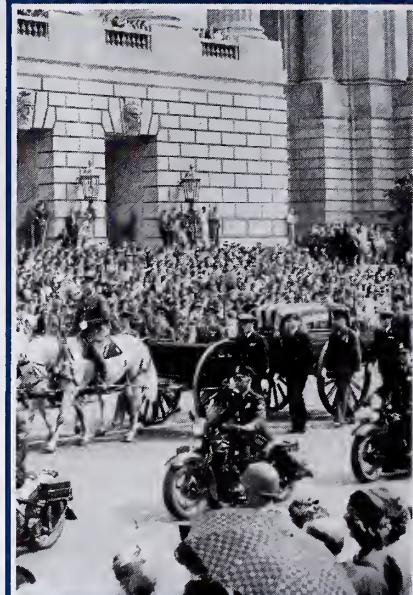
Selwyn Baer  
Malone, N.Y.

## "Final Solution"

As we entered Dachau concentration camp, our infantry company was instructed to move toward the unsecured rear sector. The captives, fearing a firefight, remained inside. As we advanced, we noticed terribly emaciated people peering at us from doorways. Finally, one brave man came out and started toward us. He was weak and would stumble a few steps, fall, crawl, regain his feet and fall again. By the time he reached us, he was hysterical—laughing, crying, hugging. His brave act prompted others to come forth, many barely able to creep along

# REMEMBER

# WHEN



AP/WIDE WORLD  
**ROOSEVELT'S DEATH**—On April 14, 1945, the nation said goodbye to President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

the ground, and we were soon engulfed by hundreds of captives, overjoyed that, at last, they were free.

Ralph W. Fink  
Hershey, Pa.

## Man of the House

I was three or four when Dad left for overseas. I knew something big was going on, but wasn't sure what. I remember Daddy, a young man behind old-time metal-framed glasses, squatting in front of me and holding a gold Elgin pocket watch with an American Legion Baseball medal Dad had won as a boy in Louisville, Ky. "If I don't come back, this is for you," he said. He then hugged me, and was gone for the next three years.

He did come back and gave me that watch on my 21st birthday. Since then, I passed it on to my son when he turned 21, but I never see it without thinking of Dad, the war and the day he left.

Garnett C. Brown Jr.  
Paris, Ky.

## Even The Young

As elementary school students, we helped the war effort every way we could. We collected and flattened tin cans and stored them in the school basement. We cut out crossword puzzles to mail to our troops and bought 10 cents savings stamps and planted "victory gardens." We sang patriotic songs and learned the alphabet of war: OPA, WAC, WPB and more. We knew the value of ration books, of red, white and blue stamps, tokens and points. We understood the need for sacrifice and conservation and accepted the lack of white flour, meat and other goods as necessary evils. We learned to recognize the banging on the side of our house by the air raid warden when we had to douse our lights during blackouts. We were young, but we understood and did our part.

Robert J. Booker  
Knoxville, Tenn.

## Fighting Spirit

I was an Army nurse stationed in New Guinea when an Australian ship was bombed by the Japanese and some of the casualties arrived at our hospital. They were badly burned, their bodies wrapped like mummies. Only their eyes, mouth, fingers and part of their lower extremities were exposed.

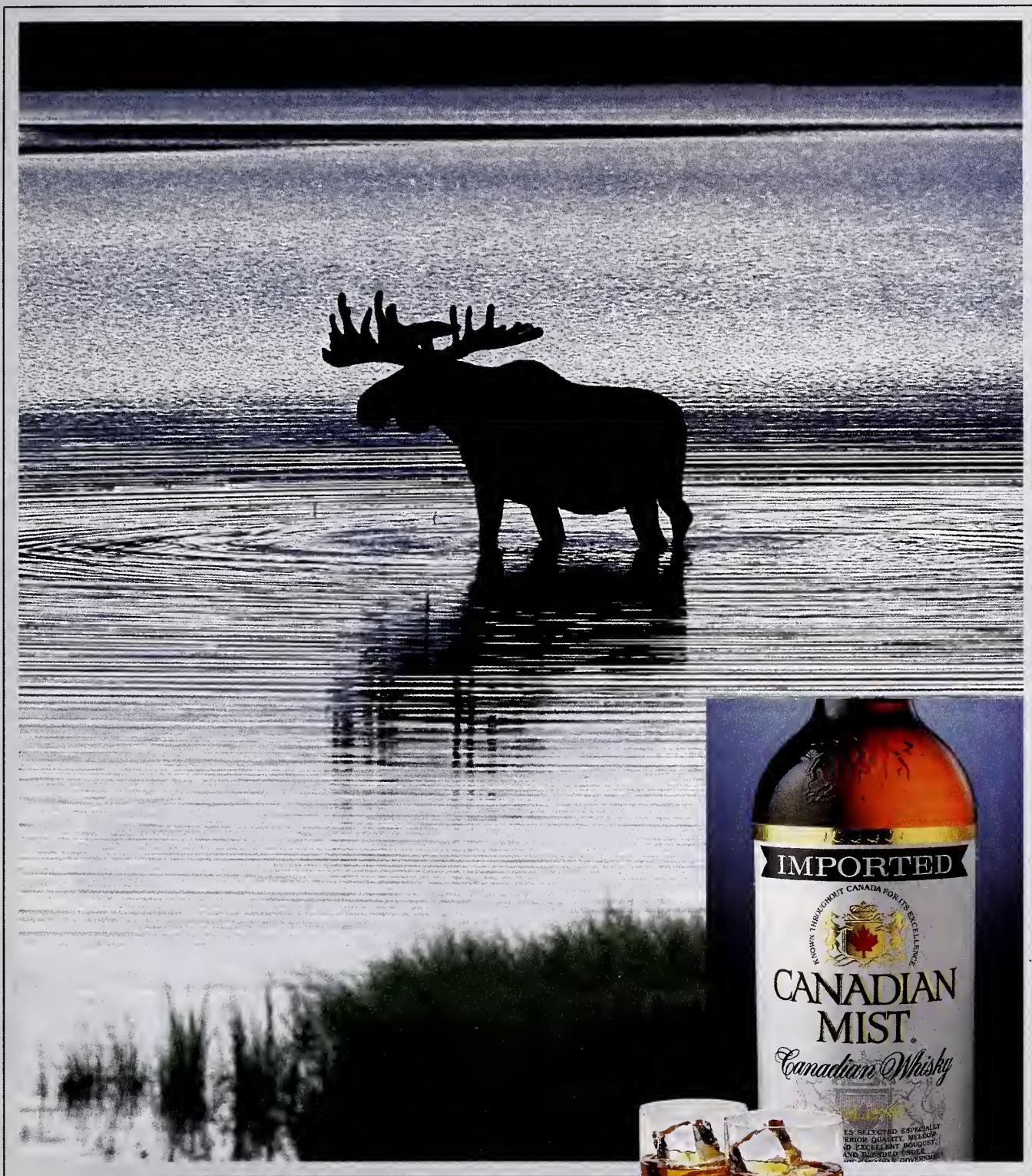
One day after administering to one of these patients, I felt a pinch on the buttocks. I quickly turned and caught a twinkle in his eyes. I never knew what became of these men, but this memory has remained with me. It exemplified the resilience and spirit of our fighting men and women during World War II.

Priscilla Preston Scanzani  
Beverly, Mass.

## Young Loss

I was 22, working seven days a week, 10 hours a day in a defense plant in February 1945. We had three children—a girl nearly five, another two-and-a-half, and a boy of six months. I was at work when my brother-in-law came and told me my brave darling had

# CANADA AT ITS BEST



Now and then, a fine spirit can evoke the very essence of the land that produced it. So it is with Canadian Mist, America's number one Canadian. Pleasingly mellow. Yet clean, honest, and true.

Like Canada itself. When it's at its best.

**LIGHT,  
SMOOTH,  
MELLOW**

been killed Jan. 16 in the Battle of the Bulge.

Later, I cried as I bathed the oldest child. She said, "Don't worry, Mom. When Daddy gets to heaven and gets his wings, he'll come flying straight home to us." Their Dad would be proud of them today.

*Marjorie Hayward  
Union City, Pa.*

## Young Love

I was a WAC stationed in Georgia, engaged to a Marine. For months ours had been a heart-throbbing, letter-writing romance. I'd bragged about my "wonderful, romantic Marine" and eventually my WAC friends were almost as eager to meet him as I was.

We both got furloughs in August 1944. He would arrive in Chattanooga by train, I'd meet him, we would get our marriage license and be married the next day. Dozens of WACs showed up to witness our "romantic" meeting. When my Marine stepped from the train, a cheer went up from the women. Then, with cordiality I will never forget—nor forgive—he removed his hat and shook my hand.

*Priscilla Smith Botti  
Canterbury, Conn.*

## Friendly Fire

I was aboard the *USS Buchanan* about 125 miles from Tokyo. Our planes were almost over their targets when word of the Japanese surrender reached them. We heard the words of Admiral Halsey: "It looks like the war is over. Cease firing, but if you see any enemy planes in the air, shoot them down in a friendly fashion."

*William A. Emerson  
Fridley, Minn.*

## Happy Holidays

There would be a dark cloud over Christmas again this year. I had waited eagerly for word from my husband in Okinawa, hoping he'd arrive home in time for the holidays, but his last letter told me chances were slim. I'd gone back to live with my parents after he'd enlisted in the Army Air Corps. Our hearts were heavy, but we had the strength of a family's love to keep us going. A small flag with stars hung proudly in our window.

Christmas Eve we sat down to a quiet dinner, trying to ignore the empty



chairs. Father said grace and I know we all added a silent prayer for our men, wherever they were. I remember the Christmas music playing softly when the doorbell rang. My husband was standing there.

*Helen M. Gentile  
Douglaston, N.Y.*

## Christmas Blessing

Christmas Day 1944, was cold, with low clouds hiding the Appennines of northern Italy. In a sea of mud, lines of ambulances brought the wounded to an evacuation hospital. Nurses and medical personnel greeted each patient with "Merry Christmas" and Christmas music played over the intercom. Word spread from cot to cot: our first hot

meal in Italy—turkey with all the trimmings. Outside, women and children sat in the rain holding GI cans, patiently waiting for dinner leftovers. To the refrains of "Silent Night," combat-hardened GIs went through the chow lines or left their beds, walked out through the mud, and with rain blending with tears, placed their Christmas dinners in each can.

*William C. Smith  
Tallahassee, Fla.*

## Paper For Peace

The 34th Infantry had just pushed the Japanese out of small town in Mindanao after blowing up a huge pillbox on a crossroads near the center of town. I had taken out my notebook to record this bit of history when I felt a tug at my pants leg. Looking down, my eyes met those of a young Filipino girl, perhaps nine years of age. She pointed to my notebook, indicating she wanted a sheet of paper. As I gave her one, her teacher arrived with about a dozen additional children. During the Japanese occupation, they had not been allowed paper of any kind for their school. It wasn't long before any dogface who had any was rummaging through his pack for paper and D ration chocolate bars. A small incident, perhaps, but it made me feel good. After being under the heel of a barbarous invader for four years, the children had no qualms about approaching men in American uniforms and asking for paper. It made me damned proud to wear that uniform.

*Robert H. Erhardt  
Fort Plain, N.Y.*

## War's End

Outside Sasebo, we rendezvoused through the night as minesweepers cleared the harbor. At 7 a.m. we filed through the narrow, foggy channel. Had all gotten the word? All was quiet as we passed through the mine net. Nothing moved. Were they dug in? Would there be a crossfire? We reached the main channel and all guns were manned. The Marines were landing, but there wasn't a soul in sight. Then we saw them. The Japanese children waving at us. After four years of hatred, how to respond? No orders covered this. Then, a sailor waved back. We had crossed over into peace.

*Thomas E. Woodstrup  
Sycamore, Ill.*

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NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The United States entered the war to fight tyranny and emerged the greatest power on earth, leading other nations to liberty and prosperity.

By Michael Novak

**W**EAKNESS destined the United States for World War II. At a time when Germany was already sending 160 jubilant divisions roaring across the plains of the Soviet Union, and when the Soviet Union was on its way to filling 300 divisions in desperate defense, the United States in late 1941 had barely 1.6 million men spread through the Army's 36 divisions.

Michael Novak is the chair for religion and public policy for the American Enterprise Institute and a columnist for Forbes magazine.

# WHY WE



HITLER'S COMMAND—Despite the reign of Hitler and the fall of France in 1941, Ameri-

America's weakness was not only military. Despite the warnings in Hitler's *Mein Kampf* in the 1930s, despite the lightning-fast successes of Nazi Germany across the face of Europe in 1940, despite the fall of France and the peril of Great Britain, Americans in 1941 did not want war.

In 1941, Ronald Reagan, 30, had just become famous for playing George Gipp in *Knute Rockne of Notre Dame*. It was the 12th year of the Great Depression. It was the era of the Big Bands and quiet, soulful, romantic dancing. Songs making the rounds on the Lucky Strike Hit Parade were sentimental, sad, zany—but most often lilting and bravely forgettable.

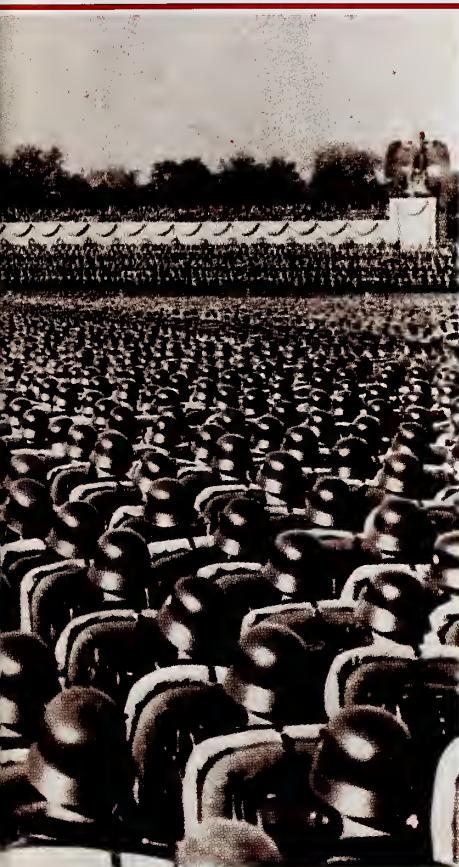
Then came Pearl Harbor. "Fifteen shopping days left till Christmas" read the signs in store windows stateside that sleepy Sunday. In Honolulu, a Japanese

agent named Takeo Yoshikawa, having telegraphed Tokyo exactly which ships were in the harbor, watched with satisfaction as the mustard-yellow planes with the dark red circles swooped out of the cool morning air.

They blew apart the *Arizona*, capsized the *Oklahoma*, demolished the *West Virginia*, and rendered impotent the *Maryland*, *Pennsylvania* and *California*. The heart of the U.S. fleet—18 ships—was destroyed in about 100 minutes.

"Silly people," Winston Churchill pronounced with emphasis in London on the day after Pearl Harbor, "Silly people think the Americans are weak. Some said they were soft, others that they would never be united. They would fool around at a distance. They would never come to grips. They would never stand bloodletting. Their democracy

# FOUGHT



REUTERS/BETTMANN

cans did not want war.

millions of others wounded in mind or body, and materially devastated much of the heartland of civilization."

The U.S. population as the war began was 132 million, more than half of them—70 million—living on farms or in towns with populations less than 10,000, and more than 25 percent having incomes below \$750 per year.

Just four years later, at a cost of 292,000 battle deaths, this same population emerged from victory as the greatest international power the world has ever known. It had a slightly larger industrial output than the rest of the world together. It deployed a military force—thanks to its monopoly of the nuclear weapon—against which no other state could stand.

And then this nation disarmed. It was the aim of Americans to use their strength wisely and well, supporting the growth of new democracies, dynamic economies, and open societies—beginning with their former enemies, Germany and Japan.

After 1945, the world experienced the greatest period of decolonization in its history. Nearly 100 nations achieved independence. The 400 million people of the North Atlantic rim and the 300 million of the East Asia rim experienced unparalleled prosperity and

and system of recurrent elections would paralyse their war effort."

But Churchill saw what Hitler, Tojo and others did not see: "I had studied the American Civil War, fought out to the last desperate inch." He bet on the Americans. "I went to bed and slept the peace of the saved and the thankful."

**T**HE same news from Pearl Harbor propelled Hitler from his chair to tell his generals: "Now it is impossible for us to lose the war! We now have an ally who has never been vanquished in three thousand years." Hitler was among the "silly people."

Thus was the United States swept into the largest war of all time, "fought across six of the world's seven continents and all its oceans," as historian John Keegan wrote. "It killed 50 million human beings, left hundreds of

SALUTE OF SORROW—Unable to conceal her misery, this Sudeten woman dutifully salutes Hitler.



NATIONAL ARCHIVES



FALL OF FRANCE—German troops march on the Champs-Elysees with the Arc de Triomphe in background.

unprecedented liberty.

From 1939 until mid-1942, though, little had gone well. In devastating surprise attacks on Pearl Harbor, Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia, the Japanese broke the backbone of British and American seapower and suddenly strode the entire Pacific hemisphere like a Colossus. Guam fell, then Wake Island, the Solomons, and the Philippines. Slashing and burning and shouting "banzai!" the Japanese seemed invincible.

On the other side of the planet, most of civilized Europe fell under the sway of fascist power, as did North Africa. On world maps, Nazi power covered the birthplaces of Christian civilization like a spreading ink blot. "The decline of the West" seemed all too credible. Hitler was already dreaming of concentration camps and planning the extermination of the Jews, Gypsies, Slav elites and other "undesirables."

No Jew or Christian could claim exemption from the consequences of defeat. As Hitler's tanks rolled into Prague in 1939, Winston Churchill somberly told the House of Commons:

"Silent, mournful, abandoned, broken, Czechoslovakia recedes into darkness . . . And do not suppose that this is the end. This is only the beginning of the reckoning. This is only the first sip, the first foretaste of a bitter cup which

## WHY WE FOUGHT

will be proffered to us year by year unless, by a supreme recovery of moral health and martial vigor, we arise again and take our stand for freedom as in the olden time."

Later, when Hitler and Stalin colluded in the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact to partition Poland and to yield the Baltic nations to Stalin's gentle mercies, Churchill again chided his fellow countrymen:

"If you will not fight for the right when you can easily win without bloodshed, you may come to the moment when you will have to fight with all the odds against you and only a precarious chance of survival. There may even be a worse case. You may have to fight when there is no hope of victory, because it is better to perish than to live as slaves."

In the beginning, through a refusal to believe the worst, through a "terminal niceness" that refused to confront evil, the liberal democracies took fearful losses. Very soon, the war became sheer resistance to enslavement. Only later did it become a war to liberate what had already fallen.

That moment came after three decisive turning points: Midway, North Africa and Stalingrad. Flying off aircraft carriers on a daring mission, Jimmy Doolittle startled Tokyo on April 18, 1942, with a single attack by 16 B-25 bombers. Livid, the Japanese traced his carrier base to Midway and set sail to give punishment with two battleships, four carriers, three cruisers and 16 destroyers.

Weakened by the loss of their own battleships at Pearl Harbor, the Americans could meet this armada with but three carriers—*Enterprise*, *Hornet* and *Yorktown*—and their escorts. The Japanese did not know the Americans had broken their codes. Even so, wave after wave of U.S. air attacks failed.

By luck, at 10:25 a.m., June 4, 1942, in what historian Keegan called "the most stunning and decisive blow in the history of naval warfare," 37 Dauntless dive bombers found the four Japanese carriers momentarily undefended with many planes on deck refueling and rearming, and in five minutes sank the *Akagi*, *Kaga* and *Soryu* (the *Hiryu* was sunk later that afternoon). "Within exactly five minutes," Keegan recounted, "the whole course of the war in the Pacific had been reversed." From Midway on, having lost its four

main carriers, the Japanese fleet was stripped of its air power. Its role became defensive.

By autumn 1942, the Allies also were on the offensive in the European theater, successfully landing in North Africa and beginning the trek toward Rome. "Now this is not the end," Churchill said as 1942 closed. "It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning."

And so it was. For in the freezing depth of winter, December 1942–February 1943, the Russian forces held at

wrote, "became Germany's timetable of defeat."

Even so, the battles yet to be fought after 1942 were huge in scope and loss of life. After the bloody desert war in North Africa, the Allies invaded Sicily. Then came Anzio Beach and the grueling, bloody battle for Monte Cassino and on up through Italy. The greatest naval armada of all time was assembled for the invasion of Normandy beginning on June 6, 1944 (63,000 wounded, 14,000 dead). Many fell in the battles to free the Netherlands, and in the Battle of the Bulge.

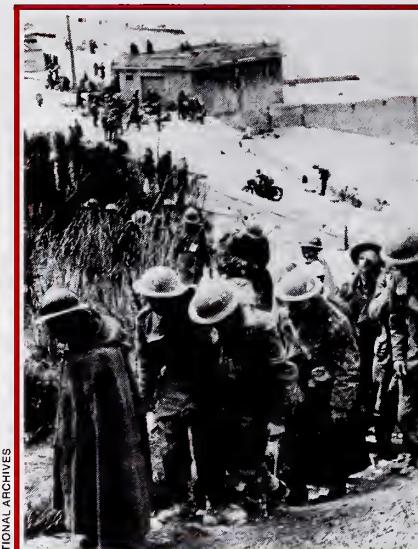
In the Pacific, bloody invasion followed bloody invasion, island by island. Seven thousand Americans died and 18,000 were wounded at Iwo Jima; 20,000 were wounded and 8,000 killed at Okinawa. Gen. MacArthur did return, as he had promised, but 62,000 were wounded and 14,000 killed in the battle of Luzon.

The Japanese warlords promised that millions would die in the final battle for Japan. Every man, woman and child, they threatened, would be armed. No quarter would be given.

Then, in one of the most fateful moments of human history, Harry Truman ordered the "one-two" attack that alone, he thought, had the potential for giving the Japanese a way to "save face" and end the war immediately. On Aug. 6, the *Enola Gay* B-29 dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, killing an estimated 100,000 people—fewer than had been killed in the firebombing of Tokyo weeks before, but in a far more terrifying way. On Aug. 9, another bomb was dropped on Nagasaki. Unknown to the Japanese, these were the only two bombs the United States possessed. Shocked by the disaster in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and fearing further atomic warfare, the warlords sued for peace within six days. World War II was over.

Of course, there was one terrible hypocrisy, contradiction even, in the Allied war aims. One of the largest and most significant of the Allies was Josef Stalin's Soviet Union—fresh from the brutal starvation killings of some 11 million of its own citizens in the Ukraine, from the murderous purges of 1936-37 which greatly weakened the officers corps of the Red Army, and from the systematic destruction of Christianity and Judaism.

How could the war be "a war to save



**BRITISH POWS**—The German army invaded France in 1940 and captured these British soldiers at Dunkirk.

Stalingrad, and then crushed the extended German line like a fragile eggshell, taking 91,000 prisoners. After 1942 the Germans, too, were on the defensive.

In 1942, American industrial might was only beginning to show itself. Churchill had recalled a year earlier that "The United States is like a gigantic boiler—once the fire is lighted under it there is no limit to the power it can generate." By year's end, United States output already equalled that of all the Axis powers put together. Two years later, it was twice the output of all the Axis powers. There had been nothing like it in history. Rivers of tanks, planes and ships poured from production lines and headed overseas. "America's schedule of production," one observer

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## WHY WE FOUGHT

NATIONAL ARCHIVES



**NAZI RUTHLESSNESS**—U.S. troops found thousands of wedding rings the Germans removed from their victims near Buchenwald concentration camp.

democracy" when one of the Allies was Hitler's peer in barbarism? Churchill, for one, kept his concentration on only one enemy at a time—the one that threatened to snuff out Britain's liberty: "I have only one purpose, the destruction of Hitler, and my life is much simplified thereby. If Hitler invaded Hell I would make at least a favorable reference to the Devil in the House of Commons."

As Churchill foresaw but Roosevelt did not, this wartime alliance of convenience would end in divorce with the clanging down of the Iron Curtain and the resumption of the Cold War, almost immediately after World War II.

Unlike the latter, the Cold War would last not six years but 41. It lasted until the Berlin Wall came down in 1989, and Eastern Europe at last tasted the liberty it had lost in 1938-39.

Only with the miracle of 1989, in a way, came the true end of World War II.

Of all the wars of history, World War II is far and away the most complex and fascinating to study, more so even than the American Civil War, which has so many devotees, especially of its battlefields. Locked in combat in World War II were three great ideas as well as armies: communism, fascism and liberal democracy. To understand World

War II, one must understand ideologies and the battle of ideas. One must also grasp differences in political and productive systems, national idiosyncrasies, and an enormous sweep of geographic diversity. Great battles were fought in deserts, on icy steppes, in steamy jungles, on windswept mountains and on the oceans.

The stakes were unprecedented. Churchill cast the issue as civilization versus barbarism, liberty versus enslavement.

**A**T least 50 million persons died in Europe alone—often suddenly and without warning, at a time they didn't choose and in a way they did not foresee. Counting those who died in the war between China and Japan, at least another 20 million died in the Pacific. Among soldiers alone, the Germans lost 3.5 million, the Soviets 7.5 million. The British Commonwealth lost one-half million or more, and the United States had 292,000 dead.

One studies this greatest of all human wars with awe.

The United States came out of World War II a very different country from what it had been just five years earlier. In 1940, there were only 132 million Americans, of whom 13 million were

black. Most lived in rural areas. One in three families had no indoor toilet; two of five had no bathtub or shower. Only one in seven families had a telephone. Two-thirds of all families had incomes less than \$1,500 per year. One-third could not afford even an "emergency level" diet; more than half fell short of dietary sufficiency. Nearly 40 percent of the first one million men called by the draft failed their physicals, mostly because of rotten teeth. Ten million (mostly men) were out of work, and only 10 million women were employed.

The war gave a huge boost to scientific research and technological development. The aircraft produced during World War II were superior by generations to those before the war. Oxygen tanks, superior engines and propellers, and new metallic alloys allowed even conventional aircraft to reach unparalleled heights. Jet propulsion added incredible speed and range, and still greater heights.

Early in 1941, the War Department boasted that the Army had just supplied itself with 20,000 horses, the most since the Civil War. By 1945, even huge new tanks were vulnerable to bazookas and armor-piercing artillery. The power and precision of weaponry grew exponentially.

Yet some of the greatest advances extended the realm of the spirit, through new technologies of command and control, communications, detection and guidance systems. Radar gave the British an important early advantage in the Battle of Britain. Radio communications gave units in the field (even "underground" units in the Resistance behind enemy lines) unparalleled means of feedback to, and direction from, headquarters. Code breaking and code making played leapfrog with one another.

On the medical front, too, significant advances saved countless lives. To sulfa was added penicillin, which cut deeply into death rates caused by infection from shrapnel, or even from surgery. Techniques for storing and conveying plasma were dramatically improved.

Automobile technology roared ahead. A nation that in 1940 boasted 1 in 5 families owning a bulky Hudson or Nash, by the 1950s was rejoicing in the futuristically long, sleek fins of Ford Thunderbirds, with lines of shiny chrome on pale pink or powder blue. Autos poured off Detroit's assembly

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## W H Y W E F O U G H T

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Americans took to the roads by the millions. They picked up their families and changed locations, mostly to the new type of residential area called "the suburbs." Americans built an average of 1.2 million new homes a year, four times any previous annual rate.

And they travelled incessantly, to see the country. A whole new concept came into reality. It was called the "motel," for a people on the move. And the orange towers of Howard Johnson's began to dot the land.

Perhaps the greatest of all transformations wrought by World War II was the growth of government. New Deal measures to brake the Depression had accustomed the population to federal intervention. But war by its nature is a "socialist" endeavor. It encourages, if it does not strictly require, national mobilization, planning, rationing and command. Leaders of industry willingly bow to "the war effort." A whole nation rolls up its sleeves. After the war, this nationalizing continued.

In 1940, the federal government spent only \$9 billion. By 1950 it was spending \$40 billion; by 1955 \$64 billion; and by 1960, \$92 billion.

Between 1946 and 1956, state governments tripled their investments in roads. President Dwight D. Eisenhower got the ambitious new federal Interstate Highway System launched. From 1947 to 1957, air passenger service tripled. Airports were typically built as public or private-public authorities.

A college campus was built, on average, every two weeks from 1945 to 1970 (there was a conspicuous boom in state universities), until the number of students—about 1.5 million in 1940—reached 7.9 million by 1970. University faculties grew, in aggregate, to be as large as the largest industrial unions.

The 1950s saw so great an outburst of prosperity that quite suddenly, in the early 1960s, poverty would be discovered not as a normal state of affairs, but as a "problem." The gross national product grew by 50 percent in the 1950s, until John Kenneth Galbraith could announce that the poor nation of 1940 had become by 1960 *The Affluent Society*.

Taxes also grew. In 1940, no one earning below \$3,000—80 percent of the population—paid any income tax at all. A tiny group of 280,000 families

earning more than \$10,000 (there were only 1,500 millionaires) paid 90 percent of all income taxes. In 1939, only 4 million households paid income tax; the Revenue Act of 1942 raised the tax base to 50 million households. It also raised the lowest rate from 4 percent to 6 percent, and taxed incomes over \$200,000 at 82 percent.

In a sense, World War II expanded the horizons of Americans immensely. It was not only "How you gonna keep 'em down on the farm/Once they have seen Paree?" More than that, Americans



BATTLE CRY—After Japanese bombing of Shanghai South Station, China, this baby was one of few left alive.

wanted to get to know one another better, and to explore whole new areas of knowledge and of life. Fields of inquiry that didn't exist before the war, new sciences, new technologies and new professions came into existence.

ONE of the great underlying themes of novels about World War II was the platoon or vessel or air crew as a "melting pot." Each unit seemed to have an Italian from New Jersey, a Jew from the Bronx, an Irishman from Fall River, a Swede from Minnesota, a good ol' boy from Georgia, a swaggering Texan, and either a smooth-faced Californian or a Bible-reader from Tennessee.

The human interest lay in Americans discovering each other's differences, getting out of their own neighborhoods

for, perhaps, the first time ever and being thrown in with the *others*. Often they rubbed each other the wrong way, but mostly they liked one another.

In the new suburbs, they would live next door to one another. In the new colleges, under the GI Bill, (see page 90 for related story) they would increasingly go to school together, room together, and inter-marry. Why not? Americans had fought together on every ocean and nearly every continent. It was time to get to know one another at home. This new openness would carry into the Civil Rights revolution of the '50s and '60s.

Meanwhile, MacArthur's design of a constitution suited to Japan and Secretary of State George C. Marshall's "Marshall Plan" for rebuilding Europe made the United States as pre-eminent in peace as it had been in war. It seemed altogether natural that when the United Nations was launched in 1945, its headquarters would be built in the New World—as if symbolizing a new beginning, distant from the Old World.

Although in 1953, the United States still was producing 53 percent of all goods produced in the world, by 1948 war-devastated Germany already was producing more than it had before the war. Soon all of Europe experienced an "economic miracle." Slowly at first, but then by leaps and bounds, tiny Japan, with no natural resources and 100 percent energy dependent, became the worldwide star of advanced manufacturing and trade. Known before the war for fragile and inferior products, Japan soon became famous for its diligent workforce and high-quality goods. It proved beyond doubt that the poor do not always grow poorer. Sometimes, given beneficial international systems, even the war-levelled, humiliated poor grow as rich as any others.

Indeed, one of the greatest tributes to postwar America was the spectacular success—not only in commerce and industry, but also in political liberty—of its two greatest wartime enemies, Germany and Japan. Americans are not supposed to be subtle negotiators or wise international statesmen. But their postwar record speaks for itself. In liberty and in prosperity, the world after 1945 became a far, far better place than it had been in 1939.

World War II was worth fighting, after all. To have lost would have brought unimaginable sorrow. □

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# PRELUDER TO WAR

By Kathy Egan

**T**HE document now known as the Atlantic Charter was not an embossed piece of parchment, but a simple mimeographed sheet distributed originally as a press release.

Although it is not much to look at, there is no overstating the charter's impact on world history. Not only did it pave the way for America's entry into World War II, but it set forth principles that endure today as cornerstones of world diplomacy.

The Atlantic Charter was the product of a secret meeting aboard ship between President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill. Drafted off Newfoundland on Aug. 14, 1941, the document envisioned Germany's defeat, and laid groundwork for postwar reconstruction.

FDR and Churchill wrote that they hoped to see "no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned." This, of course, was aimed squarely at Hitler, whose blitzkrieg invasions already had transformed the face of Europe. The charter signatories called for the restoration of "sovereign rights and self-government" among those who had been "forcibly deprived of them."

Churchill in particular had watched in despair as German U-boats played havoc with British maritime activities. The charter sought unimpeded access for all nations "to the trade and raw

*The Atlantic Charter led to the U.S. entry into World War II and later helped create the United Nations.*



**SECRET MEETING**—On Aug. 14, 1941, President Roosevelt and Winston Churchill secretly met to write the Atlantic Charter.

materials which are needed for their economic prosperity."

The document spoke with eloquence of the "final destruction of the Nazi tyranny." But the charter's eighth and final provision was its most dramatic. Here, Churchill and FDR made a stunning call for the "abandonment of the use of force" by "all of the nations of the world." However, noting that a lasting peace was unattainable so long as "land, sea or air armaments continue to be employed by nations which threaten . . . aggression outside of their frontiers," the authors declared that "the disarmament of such nations is essential." Because Germany obvi-

ously was not about to disarm itself, the language implied that the United States and Britain would have to take matters into their own hands. It was the furthest FDR had yet gone in aligning himself with Great Britain.

Even so, Churchill did not leave the fateful conference entirely happy. Churchill wanted more from FDR than vague and flowery promises of support. "He kept pressing all the way through for more direct aid, more public aid,"

recalls Elliott Roosevelt. "Father kept telling him, 'I can't do more than the American public will let me.'" FDR explained that, as angry as Americans were over Hitler's aggressions, they also feared getting drawn into the hostilities.

Whatever their disagreements over strategy, the two men clearly realized the gravity of the circumstances. In a religious service before talks began, they joined in a spirited rendition of *Onward Christian Soldiers*; both leaders saw their mission as a crusade against evil. "This wasn't just between Germany and the countries it had invaded," said Elliott

Roosevelt. "It was a conflict that had an impact on the fate of all free nations and potentially mankind as a whole."

In January 1942, delegates from 26 governments at war with the Axis powers convened in Washington, D.C., to frame a statement endorsing "a common program of purposes and principles embodied in the joint declaration . . . known as the Atlantic Charter." Their eventual statement was titled the "United Nations Declaration." It was later ratified by most of the nations of the Free World, and in June 1945, became the philosophical backbone of the organization now bearing its name. □

Kathy Egan is a California writer who specializes in historical topics.

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# 'I WANT YOU'

Fourteen months before the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, the nation prepared by instituting the draft.

AP/WIDE WORLD



FIRST ROUND PICK—Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox draws a capsule containing draft numbers as President Roosevelt looks on.

By Jerome Agel and Paul D. Colford

**T**HE United States' first peacetime military draft—"the greatest lottery in U.S. history"—was held nearly 14 months after Hitler's invasion of Poland triggered World War II and nearly 14 months before the Japanese sneak-attacked Pearl Harbor.

In the autumn of 1940, the news from across the oceans was chilling. Hitler's Wehrmacht occupied western Europe. His Luftwaffe was blitzing Britain. His U-boats were torpedoing Allied shipping to the bottom of the Atlantic. In

eastern Europe, the "Pact-of-Steel" alliance of Germany and the Soviet Union had carved up Poland, and Stalin's Red garrisons were commanding the Baltic states. More dispiriting news came from Hitler's Axis partners warring in east Africa and the Far East. Mussolini's Italian army was assaulting Somaliland. Emperor Hirohito's Japanese military, which had installed a puppet government in China, was invading Indochina.

Closer to home, America was feeling its old economic self after a decade of the Great Depression. At the New York World's Fair, General Motors' Futurama showcase predicted that Americans soon would be enjoying two-month paid vacations and air-conditioned automobiles costing as little as \$200.

At the same time, intense anti-war sentiment prevailed throughout the 48

Jerome Agel has written 40 books including fiction and nonfiction. Paul D. Colford is a staff writer for Newsday magazine.

states. There was ardent isolationism. Nevertheless, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in the home stretch of his campaign for an unprecedented third term, chanced dire political consequences when he decided on a unique stroke for democracy. He called for the nation's first peacetime military draft. "Recent history," he declared, "proves all too clearly that only the strong may continue to live in freedom and in peace." The United States must be adequately mustered and armed for "the affirmative realistic fight for peace."

The President narrowly won the day. He finally convinced Congress to mandate conscription and to hold a lottery, "the most democratic as well as the most efficient means for mustering our manpower."

The Selective Service Bill became law on Sept. 16, 1940. In the next two weeks, 16,313,240 men between the ages of 21 and 35 registered for the draft and were given lottery numbers. They became the generation of Americans that Roosevelt said had "a rendezvous with destiny."

Against the backdrop of a war-inflamed world, the unparalleled lottery was a solemn rite held in the auditorium at the War Department in Washington, D.C. It was Oct. 29, 1940. A total of 8,994 cobalt-blue opaque capsules—containing the lottery numbers assigned to registrants around the country—filled a 10-gallon glass globe on a table at the front of the broad stage. Aides used a long wooden ladle cut from a rafter of Philadelphia's Independence Hall to stir the capsules. Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, blindfolded with a strip of yellowed linen, poked his left hand into the democratic depths of the bowl. He lifted out a capsule and handed it to President Roosevelt. The commander in chief, never one to minimize the drama of an occasion, opened the capsule slowly and withdrew a slip of light cardboard. In a measured cadence, he spoke into a forest of radio and movie-newsreel microphones:

"The first number drawn in the Selective Service Lottery is...One...Five...Eight."

A woman in the crowd, Mrs. Henry Bell, screamed. Her unmarried son, Robert, a 21-year-old fireman in the District of Columbia, was a No. 158. She said she was "proud and saddened," and was gifted with the No. 158 capsule.

The President announced the first five



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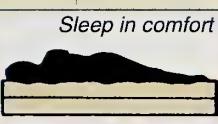
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numbers. After 158 came 192...105...679...3508. The drawing continued for 17 hours through the night, establishing the order of the call-up.

Every one of the nation's 6,175 draft boards had a No. 158. In New York, he was a Chinese laundryman who couldn't wait to get his hands on "the dirty Japs" for what they were doing to his homeland; in San Diego, he was a zookeeper; in Trenton, N.J., a midget who'd been a Munchkin in *The Wizard of Oz*; in Cleveland, a newspaper reporter; in San Francisco, a meteorologist; in Fargo, N.D., a bartender; in Nashville, a bluegrass singer; in Harlem, an elevator operator; in Boston, a 27-year-old wool clerk whose father had held the first draft number in the wartime lottery 23 years earlier; in Brooklyn, a machine operator who announced, "If they can use me, I'm ready," even though he had an artificial leg; and in many communities, drifters and the chronically unemployed who had signed up.

Among the men whose numbers were among the ones called early: actors Jimmy Stewart, Henry Fonda and Wayne Morris; the swimming star Buster Crabbe; the baseball player Vince DiMaggio; the singer Lanny Ross. Another was a graduate student at Stanford University whose No. 2748 was the 18th pulled from the lottery bowl—future President John Fitzgerald Kennedy.

Kennedy's father, Joseph P., the U.S. ambassador to Great Britain, had just returned to the states amid embarrassing reports that he was feuding with the President, that he believed "that the man in the White House" would drag the country into war. While the lottery was in process in Washington, the ambassador went to a CBS radio studio in New York City and addressed the nation, declaring, "we are rearming because it is the only way in which America can stay out of the war. If we rearm fast enough, America will stay out of the war. It is today our guarantee of peace."

Editorial writers reminded their readers that lottery number "158 is of any group, of any religion, of any occupation . . . rich, poor, uneducated," and they prayed that the draftees would not have to endure the rigors suffered by Yanks in the Great War.

On the day after he read the lottery numbers into front page headlines, President Roosevelt announced that he wanted to lend-lease airplanes and

# I WANT YOU



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NATIONAL ARCHIVES

other armaments to Great Britain. American boys would not be going to war, he said, but the United States would be the great "arsenal of democracy."

Within the week, FDR won a historic third term with 55 percent of the popular vote.

In October 1940, the regular U.S. Army totaled 360,000 men. By mid-November, 30,000 whose numbers were drawn early in the lottery would be called up for a one-year hitch. In the next year, about 800,000 would be called to the colors. What awaited many of the No. 158 draftees were makeshift battle conditions, a world of new acquaintances, and "exotic" climes far from the comforts of home.

Joseph P. Ellis, of Elmont, N.Y., remembers being called up from his Connecticut home 5½ months after No. 158 was called. His basic training was at Camp Wheeler, Macon, Ga., and Fort Blanding, Jacksonville, Fla.

"We trained with broomsticks and other make-believe arms," Ellis said. "Conditions were hot, cold, and muddy. I was shipped out to the South Pacific in January 1942. We fought for \$21 a month." He spent nearly five years recuperating from six operations for a leg wound suffered in the invasion of Leyte in the Philippines.

Another No. 158, Col. Robert Pollack (Ret.), of El Cajon, Calif., also recalls marching around with a broomstick. He spent his first three days in the

Please turn to page 106

*"Blue Snow at Half Dome"*

In full color on fine china;  
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**R**OOSEVELT was President, Hitler, Tojo and Mussolini were the enemy. The Great Depression was over. And Americans were united in a common struggle to keep the country running and to equip the "Arsenal of Democracy." Sometimes uprooted and often lonely,



BETTMANN ARCHIVE

# SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY

WARNER BROS

CASABLANCA—Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman starred in the 1942 film Casablanca, which tells the story of lovers torn apart by the war.

they waited, worked, worried and wrote to loved ones. Fifty years have passed, and the dark side of those years has largely lost its sting. We can now look back with nostalgia—almost affection—at the ordinary events of life made extraordinary by war. It was a special time in our history; it changed America, and we've never been quite the same since.

### ► ANY BONDS TODAY?

Running a war costs money and Americans proved they were up to the

**PIN UP —** Betty Grable's famous bathing suit pose graced many barracks walls and bulkheads.

challenge, buying \$157 billion worth of savings bonds. (see page 84) Moviegoers could buy 25¢ war stamps at theaters and elsewhere. Movie stars crossed the country on trains, stopping to encourage sales, and many towns had a Victory Square where local entertainers performed at lunch hour for the cause. Phil Baker's Sunday evening radio program sign-off was "Bye, bye and buy bonds."

### ► BON APETIT

Americans got their first lesson in home-front sacrifice in early 1942 when the Office of Price Administration (OPA) issued ration

books for sugar, meat and canned foods. Some luxury foods, like 50-point pineapple, gathered dust on grocers' shelves, waiting for someone to splurge. Because only two pounds of beef were allotted weekly, horsemeat became an occasional substitute, and such rare entrees as buffalo and beaver began appearing on restaurant menus. Quipped *Gourmet* magazine, "Although it isn't our usual habit, this year we're eating the Easter Rabbit."

### ► GAS PAINS

In home garages, the family car waited out the war hoisted onto wooden blocks. The "A" sticker allotment of three gallons a week scarcely made driving worthwhile. War plant workers with a "B" sticker and a car pool were granted a little more. And holders of "C" stickers, mainly doctors and clergy, fared best. Even after the gasoline shortage eased, rationing continued because of another shortage: rubber tires. But rationing had its advantages. Auto fatalities in New York were reduced by 42 percent during the war.

### ► RED BALL EXPRESS

Fast freight trains carrying perishable produce were traditionally marked with a large red circle. The Army also used the custom for priority shipments of military cargo, calling its vast network of supply trucks the "Red Ball Express."

### ► A YANK IN BRITAIN

To assure proper behavior of 3 million American servicemen in Britain, the War Department issued a small etiquette book, *Short Guide to Great Britain*, explaining English customs. One of Hitler's aims, said the book, was to spread distrust among allies. If proper Britons occasionally were dismayed by the GIs' eagerness to strike up acquaintanceships, they

# Reflections

by Lee Teter



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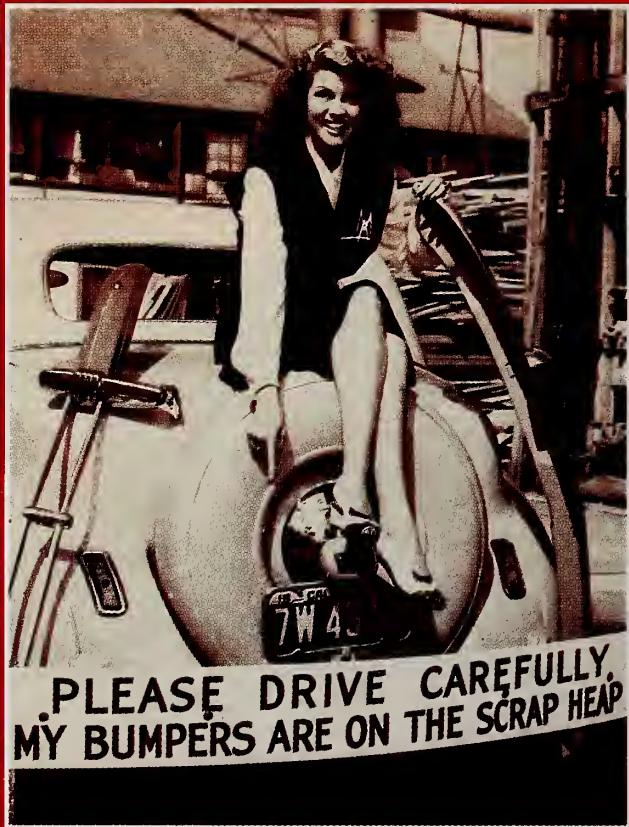
also were amused by Americans who called biscuits "cookies," and fascinated by the weekly softball games that turned London's Hyde Park into an American stadium. Prime advice: "Don't steal Tommy's girl."

### ► TROOP TRAINS

The nation's railroads started clicking a new chant, "Win-the-war, win-the-war." Boxcars became bedrooms for stacked soldiers. Baggage cars were turned into mobile kitchens. Pullman space for two was stretched to space for three—one man in the upper, two in the lower. The less fortunate slept sitting up in passenger cars, three or four to a seat. One new recruit even slept in the hat rack. Songwriters caught the spirit and immortalized America's love of trains with songs like *Chattanooga Choo Choo*.

### ► WHISTLE BAIT

Nylons were scarce and expensive; rayon hose bagged; pallid bare legs were



NATIONAL ARCHIVES

**BUMPER CROP** — Movie star Rita Hayworth sacrificed her bumpers for the war effort. Hayworth also promoted sales of U.S. war bonds.

## SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY

unsightly. So the cosmetic industry rose to the need and produced "stocking fizz" that put a film of paint on legs to replace stockings. Bragged the ads, "The most scrutinizing pair of masculine eyes cannot distinguish it from sheer hose."

### ► V-MAIL

To speed mail delivery to overseas troops, the postal service turned to microfilm. It saved cargo space needed for troops and equipment and delivery was swift. One roll of film held 1,500 letters, each enlarged at

**FRANKIE** — Waxing mellow and romantic, Frank Sinatra croons a melody for the *Records For Our Fighting Men* album.

time, other branches opened ranks for women: Navy WAVES (Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service); Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS) who flew from defense plants to bases; Coast Guard SPARS (from their motto Semper Paratus, Always Ready); and Women's Reserve of the Marine Corps.

### ► S.W.A.K.

No mail from home was more eagerly received than mail from a GI's girl—especially when she applied an extra heavy coat of lipstick and planted a kiss on the back flap of the envelope.

### ► GOD SQUAD

Chaplains of 1917 were called "Holy Joe." But in 1942 they were "Chappie." They had been toughened, taught military law, principles of chemical warfare, map reading and first aid. At times they were a soldier's best friend. And sometimes their duties included refereeing ball games.

### ► SCRAP HEAP

Scrap metal was vital to the war effort, and America responded enthusiastically. Farmers in Illinois brought in 508 tons, including such

**TRAITOR** — Iva Toguri D'Aquino, better known as Tokyo Rose, received a 10-year sentence for treason.



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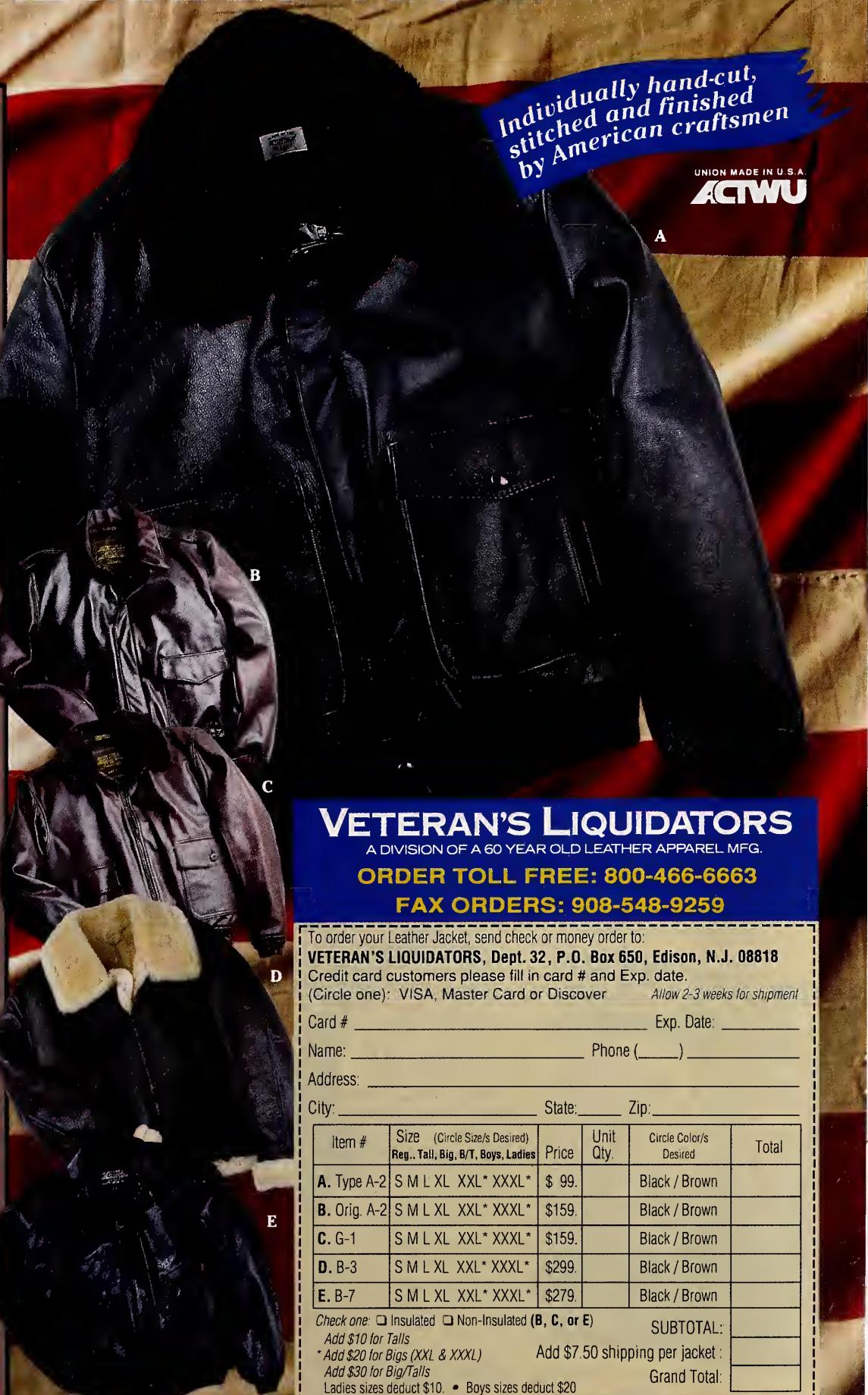
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BETTMANN ARCHIVE

## SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY

**STAR SINGERS** — The Andrews sisters appeared at the preview of the WWII movie *Follow The Boys*.

\*\*\*\*\*

bizarre items as potbelly stoves, a windmill and acres of fence wire. Boy Scouts responded to 69 requests from the government in four years, collecting huge heaps of metal scrap and 30 million pounds of rubber. Movie theaters traded admission tickets for scrap metal. Housewives saved bacon

**PUMPED UP** — War posters boosted morale and production on the home front.



grease, to be turned into ammunition. By 1945, scrap drives supplied half the tin and paper needed for the war effort.

### ► PLAY IT AGAIN, SPAM

GIs became the test group for a new recipe for canned meat, a spiced ham best known as Spam. Millions of cans were consumed by troops, refugees and prisoners of war. Often this "cuisine à la foxhole" was combined with the ubiquitous K-rations, emergency field rations that were probably the forerunner of TV dinners. K-rations were named for Ancel Keys, an anti-cholesterol crusader who pioneered the stuff. Another GI entree that went under several names was chipped beef on toast.

### ► DOG GONE

After Pearl Harbor, Hawaii recruited 2,500 dogs as sentries. At Hickam Field, trained shepherds stalked in front of B-29 Flying Fortres-

ses. Some people thought the dogs deserved the best treatment a veteran could expect. In Oak Park, Ill., an American Legion Post actually signed up an "honorably discharged" pup. American Legion officials were confident their ranks would grow with the influx of a new generation of veterans. Legion officials, however, were forced to rule that fighting dogs, veterans of the K-9 corps, were ineligible for membership.

### ► ZERO UNEMPLOYMENT

Signs of the times: Be polite to our waitresses. They are harder to get than customers. Wanted: Registered druggist, young or old, deaf or dumb. Must have license and walk without crutches. Apply Cloverleaf Drug Store.

### ► JUST SAY NO

To contribute to the war effort, women formed "no

work, no woo" clubs, ruling that they would not date men chronically absent or late to work.

### ► HOME GROWN

In 1941, Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard encouraged Americans to cultivate gardens for their own use so all other produce could go to the war effort. "Victory gardens" sprang up in such diverse spots as zoos, racetracks and jail yards. What the family couldn't eat, the women put in Mason jars. Nothing was wasted. The blossoms from garlic, carrot and okra plants were floral arrangements for the table.

### ► KILROY

He was everywhere. The wide-eyed, bald head, long nose and stubby fingers

Please turn to page 120

**BELL-BOTTOM BOOGIE** — At the Stage Door club in New York, the Lindy was popular.



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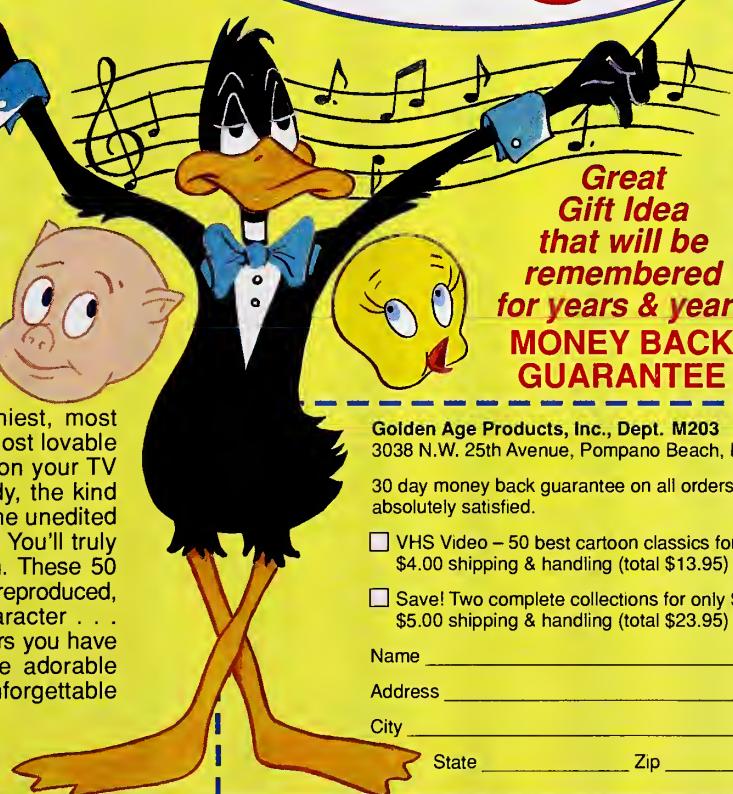
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# MAIL CALL

To observe the 50th anniversary of World War II, the U.S. Postal Service will produce a series of commemorative stamps in the next five years.



U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

**WWII STAMP**—President Bush and Postmaster General Anthony M. Frank unveil the first sheet of commemorative WWII stamps.

PRESIDENT George Bush is tentatively scheduled to dedicate the first of five series of World War II commemorative stamps at The American Legion National Convention in Phoenix, Aug. 30 through Sept. 5. Although the White House cannot confirm President Bush's appearance at the Convention for security reasons, officials from the U.S. Postal Service say the first day of issue of the new commemorative, "1941: A World At War," will be at the convention.

"This is especially important," said James H. Adams, spokesman for the U.S. Postal Service, "because the World War II commemorative stamps are being printed in limited numbers, which means they will be very much in demand by serious collectors. Legionnaires attending the convention will be

offered the first opportunity to purchase these new stamps."

Historically, limited edition first-day-of-issue stamps have become collectors' items, increasing in value. In addition, the Postal Service stated first day covers bearing postmark cancellations will also be available.

This will not be the first time World War II has been commemorated by a postage stamp. In 1945 and 1946, the postal service issued stamps recognizing the wartime services of the Army, Navy, Coast Guard and Marines, and another 1946 stamp depicts the military service pin, irreverently referred to by many World War II veterans as the "ruptured duck." These three-cent stamps sold in sheets of 50 and recognized the service and sacrifice of American servicemen.

The new commemorative issues are 29-cent stamps, 10 to a sheet. Each of

the 10 stamps highlight an important event during 1941, and the stamps surround a Mercator map of the world on which the events are highlighted.

The 10 events depicted are:

- The 717-mile Burma Road, the supply line vital to China's survival.
- GIs doing calisthenics, a scene recognizing the country's first peace-time draft.
- A jeep being loaded aboard a ship destined for an Allied port as part of America's Lend-Lease Act.
- Churchill and Roosevelt, co-signers of the Atlantic Charter, the document that paved the way for the Lend-Lease Act.
- A tank representing U.S. industry as the nation gears up for war, making America the "arsenal of democracy."
- The destroyer *USS Reuben James*, as seen through the eye of a German U-boat periscope. The ship was sunk off the coast of Iceland Oct. 31, 1941, the act some historians say led to the U.S. involvement in the war.
- At home, Civil Defense became vital to the safety of both industry and civilians.
- The first Liberty ship is launched.
- Dec. 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. A day of infamy.
- Our lawmakers cast the fateful votes that launch the United States into a war against the Axis powers.

The stamps will be sold as complete sets only, for \$2.90 a sheet, according to the Postmaster General's office.

"The members of The American Legion, as the world's largest veterans organization, played a vital role during World War II," Adams said. "It is fitting they should have the first chance to see and buy these stamps."

Four more sets, one for each year of the war, will be printed and released during the 50th anniversary of that year.

Thus, 50 stamps and five maps, will relate the history of the greatest armed conflict this country has ever experienced.

National Commander Robert S. Turner said, "Legionnaires feel privileged to be recognized for the role they played during this mighty conflict half a century ago. Nearly 2 million Legionnaires served their country during this era and these stamps, in words and pictures, tell their story."

The U.S. Postal Service will set up a booth at the Convention to sell the "1941: A World At War" commemorative stamps. □

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# DAY OF INFAMY



**BATTLE DAMAGE**—Destroyer USS Downes, left, holds the USS Cassin from capsizing in the Pearl Harbor drydock. Behind the destroyers, the battleship USS Pennsylvania suffered slight damage during the Sunday morning attack and rejoined the fleet.

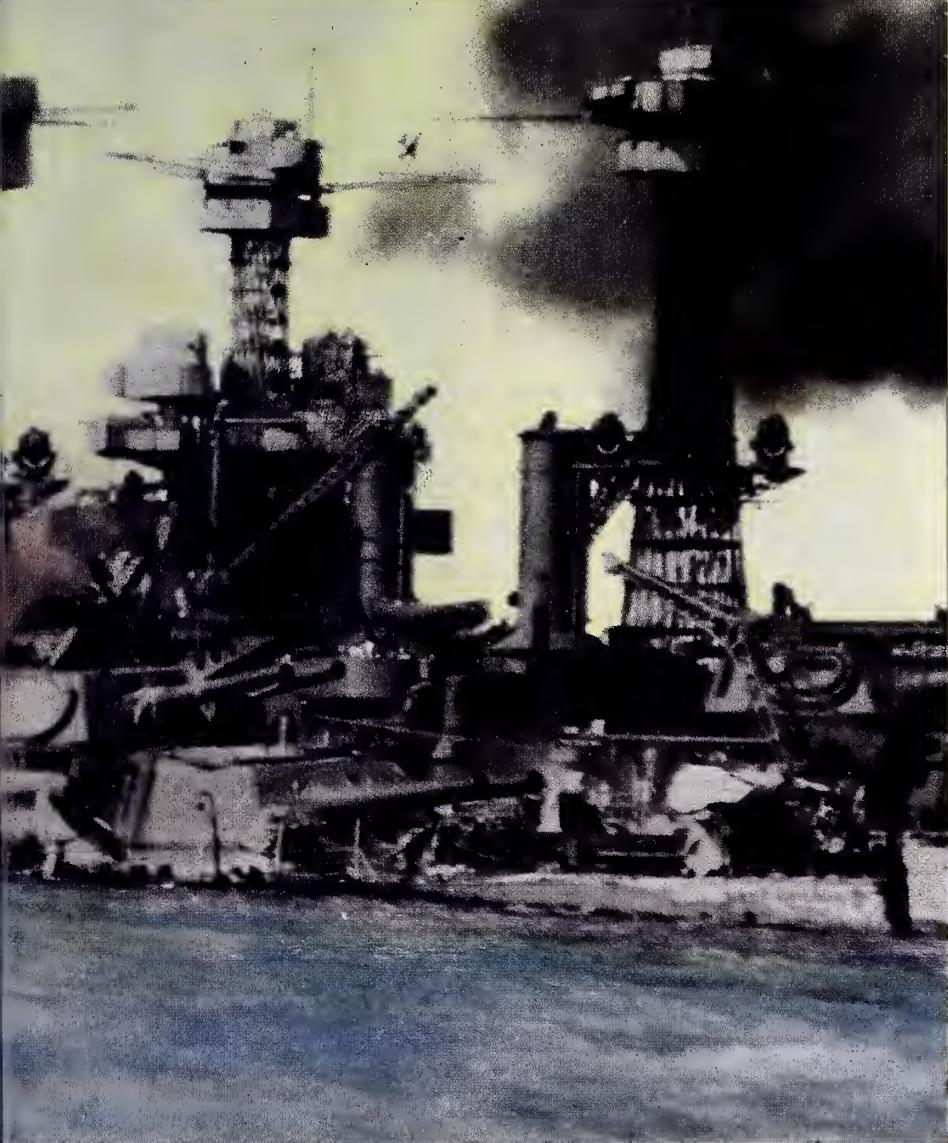
PHOTOS BY NATIONAL ARCHIVES DEPT OF DEFENSE COLORIZATION BY PATRA DAVIS



# 1941



SNEAK ATTACK—The destroyer *Shaw* (inset) explodes after being hit by a Japanese bomb at Pearl Harbor. The *Tennessee* and *West Virginia* (below) also were hit in the Dec. 7 battle, which drew America into the war.



By Philip C. Clarke

**N**OT UNTIL the bombs began falling did Pearl Harbor's command center flash the word: "AIR RAID! THIS IS NO DRILL!" From the bridge of the battleship *Oklahoma* came the order: "MAN YOUR BATTLE STATIONS!" It was 0755 Hours, Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941, the start of what President Franklin D. Roosevelt would call "a date that will live in infamy," and of U.S. entry into a war that in three years, nine months and 22 days would kill 292,131 Americans and wound 670,846 others.

FDR's characterization of the sneak attack was fitting. Taking over as Japan's premier in October 1941, Gen. Hideki Tojo, the fiercely anti-American warlord, ordered his emissaries in Washington, Adm. Kichisaburo Nomura and Ambassador Saburo Kurusu, to demand immediate removal of U.S. economic sanctions aimed at ending Japanese aggression in the Far East. As Nomura and Kurusu stalled for time at the State Department, a powerful 33-ship Japanese armada, including six aircraft carriers, maneuvered undetected to within 200 miles of Hawaii. Shortly after dawn on the 7th, two waves of 360 Japanese fighters and bombers struck at the heart of the U.S. Pacific Fleet and at American air bases guarding Pearl Harbor and beyond..

As the first wave closed on its targets, squadron commander Mitsuo Fuchida radioed a one-word message to this carrier. "Tora!" he

Please turn to page 92

Philip C. Clarke, who covered World War II as a correspondent for the Associated Press, resides in North Carolina. In addition to this story, he wrote articles in this issue about the yearly progression of the war.

## By Lester David

**A**T PRECISELY 12:23 p.m. on a crisp, sunny Monday in 1941, Franklin D. Roosevelt gripped the lectern in the House of Representatives and, in a six-minute speech, asked Congress to declare war against Japan.

That 8th day of December, 80 million Americans, glued to their radios, heard the commander in chief denounce the "date which will live in infamy" and vow to lead the nation in victory over the empire that had delivered the sneak and savage assault on Pearl Harbor 24 hours earlier.

The night before, the horrendous news only eight hours old, the President had met with his cabinet and congressional leaders in his second-floor study. Outside the White House, a large crowd had gathered. Spontaneously, they began singing *God Bless America*.

FDR worked on his war message until dawn. After only a few hours of sleep, he arrived at the Capitol, his black Navy cape slung over his shoulders. Forty minutes after his speech, the Senate passed the war resolution,

*Lester David, a free-lance writer, served as the managing editor of the Paris edition of Stars and Stripes during the war.*

# THE WAR

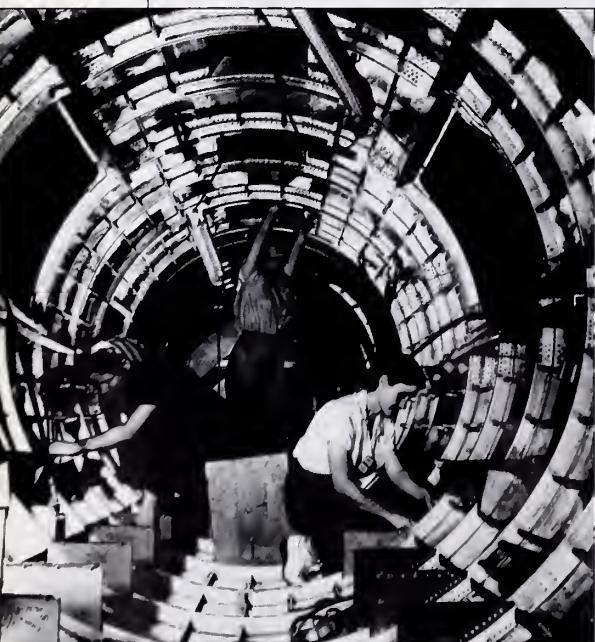
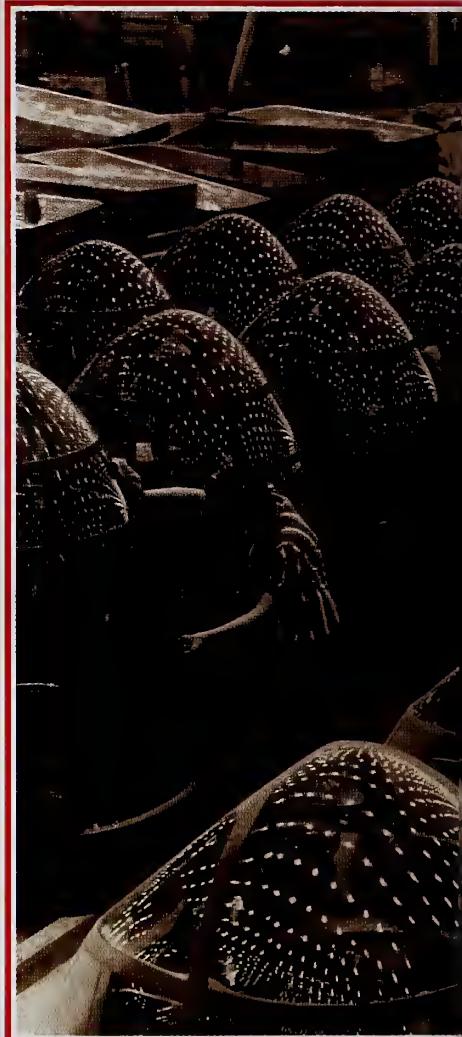
- *In five years, American industries manufactured 300,000 planes, 93,000 vessels, 2.5 million trucks, and about 400,000 artillery pieces.*

followed swiftly by the House. At 4:10 p.m., it reached the Oval Office and was signed by the President. Three days later, after Germany and Italy announced that hostilities existed with the United States, FDR sent another message to Congress, which responded with a declaration of war against the other two Axis countries. Marines with fixed bayonets took positions around the White House and Capitol. Machine guns were placed at strategic points, one inside the Lincoln Memorial. Anti-aircraft guns were set on the roofs of government buildings.

The mood of the country was shock at the incredible events and fury at the attackers. In homes, factories and offices, Americans lashed out in anger. *Time* magazine reported: "What they said, tens of thousands of them, was: 'Why, the little yellow bastards!'"

By the tens of thousands, too, men flocked to recruiting centers, which remained open day and night. In Beaufort, S.C., a retired major applied for active service, but was turned away. He was 81, a Spanish-American War veteran.

Christmas furloughs were canceled for all Armed Forces personnel, and those who had already left were ordered to return to posts. Marriage plans were immediate casualties. Tearful brides-to-be put away wedding gowns and



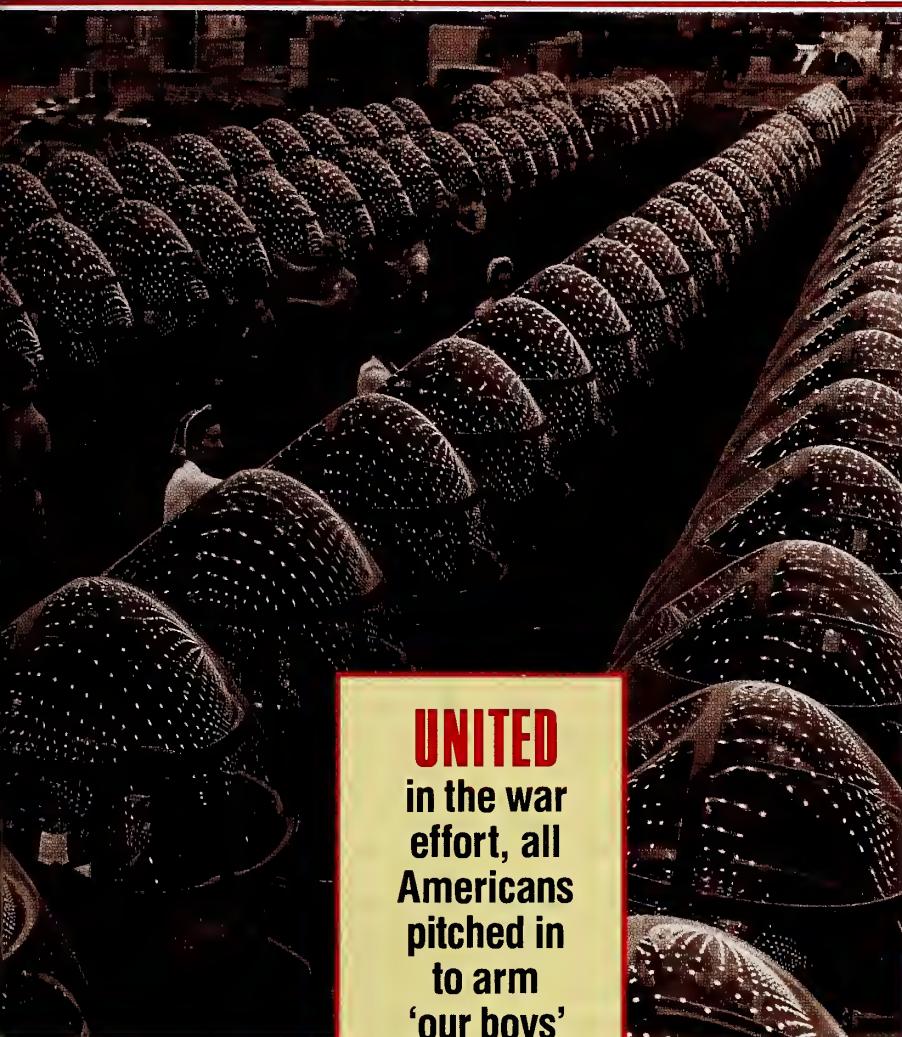
**RIVETING ROSIES**—Women workers install fixtures to the tail of a "Flying Fortress" B-17 bomber.

accompanied their fiancées to train and bus stations where they clung to each other in sad farewells. Some of the men would marry their girls later. Others would never return, and still others would receive "Dear John" letters explaining that the girls they left behind had lost their hearts to others.

The shock of Pearl Harbor was followed almost immediately by an escalating rage against anything Japanese and led to one of the most controversial episodes in American history.

On Feb. 19, 1942, President Roosevelt signed Executive Order

# MACHINE



**UNITED**  
in the war  
effort, all  
Americans  
pitched in  
to arm  
'our boys'  
overseas.

9066, giving the Army authority to evacuate "any and all persons" from designated areas. Those affected, which included anyone who had at least one Japanese great-grandparent, were given until March 27 to leave voluntarily. After that date they would have 48 hours to make preparations to go—sell possessions, homes and businesses and prepare for resettlement.

On March 30, the Japanese-Americans were taken by Army truck and train to assembly areas, such as the Santa Anita Race Track, where they

awaited the construction of "relocation" centers.

Their confinement ended in December 1944, when the Supreme Court found no reason to detain Japanese-Americans who had not been proved to be disloyal and the Army began to move them back to their homes. Many, however, were unable to reclaim their homes and businesses.

When the war began, Washington was entirely unprepared to be the nerve center of a global conflict. Service personnel were ordered to report to work in "full uniform," but for years



**AMERICA BUILDS**—At Douglas Aircraft Co.'s Long Beach, Calif., plant, women workers grom A-20 attack bomber noses. Victory cargo ships line up at a west coast shipyard.

PHOTOS BY NATIONAL ARCHIVES

most had worked in civies—sports coats and pants—having long since forgotten about uniforms. The ensuing spectacle was eye-boggling. Some arrived in military pants with civilian shirts and ties; others wore campaign hats and leg wrappings from World War I.

Construction of the Pentagon was under way, but wouldn't be completed for another two years, so the War Department was scattered among 20 temporary buildings around Washington.

Alphabet agencies sprang up like mushrooms. The prize went to the PWPGSJSISIACWPB—which stood for the Pipe, Wine Product and Galvanized Steel Jobbers Subcommittee of the Iron and Steel Industry Advisory Committee of the War Production Board.

Government "girls" swarmed into Washington, but there weren't enough typewriters, much less adequate places to live for them and the thousands of others who descended on the Capitol. And yet, from these improbable beginnings, emerged the mightiest war machine in history.

America geared up to field and equip



PHOTO BY NATIONAL ARCHIVES

**SWEET PATIENCE**—These people wait for rations of sugar, a strictly regulated staple in World War II.



**SYSTEM OF SACRIFICE**—The complex rationing system included a points system, coupon books and stamps.



**BAD CUT**—Slashed points without reduced prices was one of the surest clues to black-market meats.

its own forces and at the same time continued to be the world's "Arsenal of Democracy." That ringing phrase had been coined by FDR a year before Pearl Harbor when he asked for a law permitting the United States to ship war materials to any country whose defense was vital to our interests. The act—the famous "Lend-Lease Bill"—passed Congress in March 1941, and the United States began sending equipment abroad.

America not only supplied its Allies, but fielded an Army of 12 million and floated a huge and powerful Navy to fight two well-prepared empires simultaneously at opposite ends of the world. It was a prodigious feat, unequalled in the history of armed conflict.

Immediately after war was declared, Roosevelt set his targets: 60,000 planes, 45,000 tanks, 20,000 anti-aircraft guns, 8 million tons of new shipping, all to be produced in just one year.

The monumental task of accomplishing these goals was placed in the hands of bespectacled, pipe-smoking Donald Nelson, who was named chairman of the War Production Board. With authority over factories, industrial workers and arms programs, it was called "the biggest single job in the world today."

The President's goals seemed untenable, but from all over the country labor leaders, government agencies, industrialists, political officials and millions of workers told him in letters, calls and telegrams: "It can be done." Nelson, and the nation, buckled down to work.

Almost overnight factories which had been making products for civilians converted to wartime production. Type-writer plants were converted to the manufacture of machine guns. Automobile assembly lines switched to making bombers. Shipyards, built in a few months, gave birth to a new Liberty ship every four days.

At Willow Run, the huge Ford factory with an assembly line the length of 10 football fields, workers switched from making cars to building Consolidated B-24D bombers, producing 500 a month by 1943. Tanks and jeeps by the thousands began trundling off assembly lines.

In five years, the "Arsenal of Democracy" produced 300,000 planes of every type, 2.5 million trucks, 93,000 war and cargo vessels of all types, 6 million tons of bombs for aircraft, 44 billion rounds of small arms

ammunition and nearly 400,000 pieces of artillery.

Rural America also contributed to the arsenal. New types of fertilizers produced more abundant harvests, better insecticides were developed, and inventors designed more efficient types of farm machinery.

Inventions largely ignored for decades by industry were resurrected from semi-oblivion and soon became important parts of the war effort. Among these were diesel power, invented a half-century before; frozen food, dating back to the early 1900s, and radar, which had its beginnings in the early 1930s.

Food and equipment were vital but so, too, was manpower. The initial draftees were called for one year of service. After Pearl Harbor, the Selective Service Act of 1940 was amended to call for service for the duration and six months after the war. The registration age also was changed then to include men 18 to 45 years. Often repeated was some variation of the crack: "If you're warm and you move, you're in," but 5 million, or 30 percent, of those called were classified 4-F and rejected.

**T**HE others flowed by the tens of thousands each week to the bases, most to Army posts, where in 13 weeks of basic training they watched "Mickey Mouse" movies about the horrors of venereal disease, nursed sore muscles that hadn't been used in years, discovered that military food was not like mother's cooking—and were whipped into a semblance of soldiers. Like cookie cutters, officer candidate schools stamped out "90-day wonders," second lieutenants who looked great but were only a short time removed from civilian life themselves.

Women also donned military uniforms. In May 1942, the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAC) was created, with 37-year-old Oveta Culp Hobby, a slim and attractive mother of two children, named as its head with the rank of major. They were young girls one day, even teen-agers or coeds, but when they donned the uniform they were women in defense of their country. Eventually the WACs formed a corps that contributed substantially to the war effort.

Soon after the men went to war, American women began to replace them in factories, shops and on farms. By the end of 1943, 12 million workers, fully one-third of the work force, were

# 'FROM IMPROBABLE BEGINNINGS EMERGED THE MIGHTIEST WAR MACHINE IN HISTORY.'

women. More than half were married and many were mothers and grandmothers.

In Marietta, Ga., for example, the 75-year-old widow of Confederate Gen. James Longstreet walked daily to her job on the early shift at an aircraft factory.

"Rosie the Riveter" became the catch phrase describing the woman worker on the assembly line at airplane factories, shipyards and other plants engaged in defense work. They held jobs as riveters, welders, hydraulic press operators and shell loaders.

Aircraft companies soon discovered that women could squeeze into small spaces and do delicate welding which burly men with larger hands could not accomplish. They also were better able to tolerate the repetitious and monotonous tasks of the assembly line. When precision filing was needed on instruments, one plant assigned former manicurists to do the job.

With so many critical items diverted to feed and equip the Allies, shortages began to pinch everywhere. Hard to find, or non-existent, were nylons, shoes, diapers, paper products, cameras, phonographs, batteries and alcohol, among a host of other things Americans had taken for granted. Rubber was nowhere to be found. Women had to give up elastic girdles for the duration; teething rings made of rubber, balloons, rubber bands, galoshes, pencil erasers—all were gone from the shelves. Only essential vehicles such as police cars, fire trucks and doctors' cars could obtain tires. The stock reply to complainers was: "Don't you know there's a war on?"

Rationing, a complex system of points, A, B and C coupon books and red, blue and green stamps, was established by the Office of Price Administration, headed by short-tempered, 200-pound Leon Henderson. Each person was allotted four ounces of butter and 1 3/4 pounds of meat a week; coffee, flour, cheese, sugar and other staples were under strict rationing.

Everybody wanted to do something to help win the war. By 1943, there were more than 12 million Americans,

AP/WIDEWORLD



**FILL 'ER UP?**—This motorist could get plenty of water but no gas, because he pulled into this New York City station after 7 p.m.

men, women and even children, volunteering. They became air raid wardens, nurses' aides, drivers for the Red Cross and civilian spotters searching the skies for enemy aircraft. Civilian aircraft flew over coastal waters looking for submarines. Boy Scouts participated in mock air raids to test emergency procedures and Legionnaires and other patriotic Americans bought bonds; rolled bandages, donated blood and saved tons of scrap metal and rubber.

Twenty million victory gardens sprouted in backyards, lots and playgrounds to supply the civilian population with fruits and vegetables because most of the agricultural produce was taken by the Armed Forces.

So it went on the home front, Americans helping as much as they could, avidly following the ebb and flow of conflict, rejoicing at the victories, weeping when telegrams informed them of sons and daughters killed in action, and waiting for the final days.

Then, on the morning of May 7, 1945,

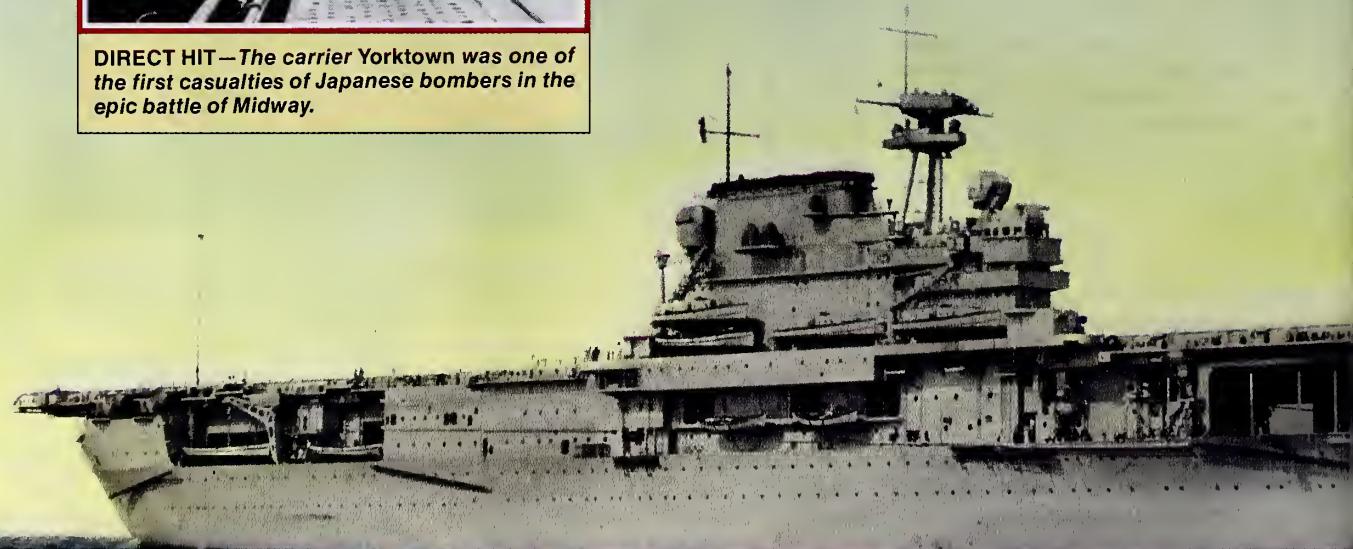
a Monday, a flash went on the radio: It was over. Germany had surrendered unconditionally at 2:41 a.m. in a little red schoolhouse in Reims, France. Next day, after the news had been confirmed, VE-Day celebrations were held in every city, town and hamlet. People poured into the streets, hugging one another; girls were soundly kissed by uniformed men; factory whistles blew; ships sounded their deep-throated horns. In Manhattan, a blizzard of confetti fell into the streets.

After Hiroshima and Nagasaki were pulverized by atomic bombs on Aug. 6 and 9, respectively, a new round of agonized waiting began. Five days later came word that the Allies had accepted the unconditional surrender of Japan. This time, except in Manhattan where more tons of paper littered the streets, demonstrations were muted.

Realization had set in for most Americans that, with the end of the greatest war in history, massive problems in rebuilding world order lay ahead. □



**DIRECT HIT**—The carrier Yorktown was one of the first casualties of Japanese bombers in the epic battle of Midway.



# THE EAGLE FLIES

# 1942



**SKY PILOTS**—These torpedo bombers await launching from the deck of the carrier Enterprise into the skies over Midway.



**A**FTER the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Sen. Burton K. Wheeler, the former isolationist, said in a speech: "The only thing to do now is to lick hell out of them." It was easier said than done. A peaceable America suddenly was at war with the three most powerful and aggressive dictatorships in the world—Germany, Italy and Japan. Nonetheless, in 1942 the United States, ready or not, would begin the hard work of freedom, in battles forever remembered: Midway, Coral Sea, Santa Cruz, Guadalcanal, among others. The campaigns in North Africa and Europe would be joined later.

Since the start of the war in Europe in September 1939, the United States had sustained the embattled British, and then the Soviets, with a vast sealift of arms and supplies. U.S. factories now were called on to convert America itself into a mighty war-fighting machine capable of defeating the enemy on land, sea and in the air.

Protected by two oceans, Americans geared for war at a prodigious pace. Millions volunteered for service or were "selected" for duty by 6,000 local draft boards. Training camps arose overnight. Short of weapons, trainees marched with wooden guns. Trucks served as makeshift tanks; planes dropped sacks of flour to simulate bombs.

On the home front, rationing and price controls took over. Detroit switched from cars to tanks, jeeps and transport trucks. U.S. shipyards launched 6,000 merchant vessels, many at the astonishing rate of one every 42 days. Almost 300,000 warplanes rolled off assembly lines. Nearly \$157 billion in war bonds were bought by patriotic Americans.

**HEAD-ON**—U.S. carrier strength and sound strategy was the combination for victory at Midway.



BATAAN DEATH MARCH—More than 5,800 Americans died in the trek.



SAYONARA—The Japanese cruiser Nakuma was sunk by bombers from the Enterprise.



"MONTY"—British Gen. Bernard Montgomery commands tanks at the North African front.

1942

An army of housewives—"Rosie the Riveters"—joined the work force where jobs went begging as their husbands marched off to war.

The war news, however, was not good. London survived Hitler's blitz but prowling packs of German U-boats, more than 200 strong, were taking a fearful toll of Allied shipping—7.9 million tons were sunk in 1942 alone—and the British were hurting. Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's Afrika Korps soon would launch an armored assault on Cairo. Unless Britain's beleaguered Eighth Army held, the Suez Canal would lie open to German arms, imperiling the oil-rich Middle East. In the spring, Hitler planned to renew his all-out offensive to conquer the Soviet Union. And in the Philippines, Tokyo's invasion forces were driving U.S. and Filipino defenders toward the sea (Manila fell on Jan. 2). Other Japanese armies were pushing southward in Malaya (Singapore surrendered on Feb. 15), targeting the resources-rich Dutch East Indies (it capitulated March 7), and sweeping westward from French Indochina into British-protected Burma. Severing the Burma Road in May 1942, Japan forced the Allies to supply embattled China entirely by air, flying the hazardous Himalayan "hump" from India.

However grim the overall picture, America's deepest worries centered



STORMIN'—Marines charge ashore on the beaches at Guadalcanal Island during the early



PAYBACK—Army pilot James Doolittle (left foreground) discusses Tokyo attack plans.



SIGN OF THE TIMES—A flight deck crewman gives last-minute instructions to pilots.



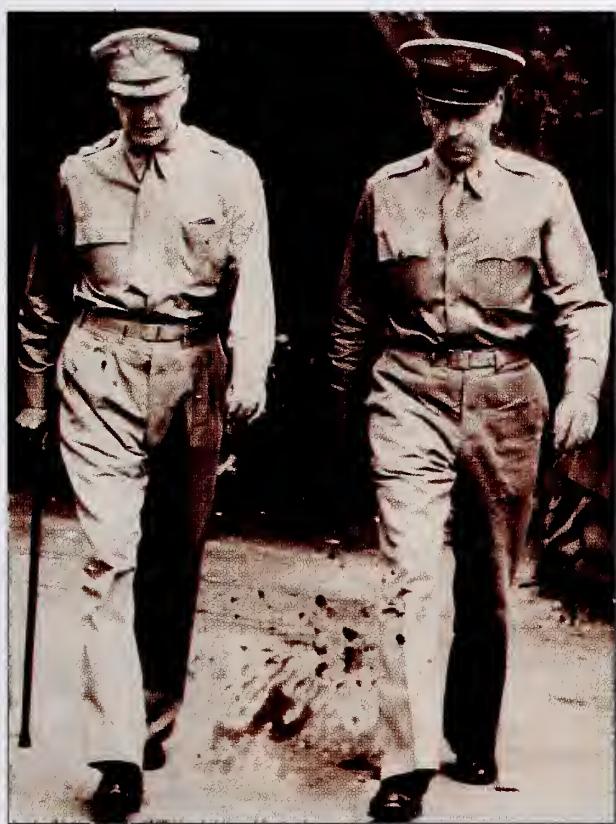
MORTAR MEN—Army troops load shells into tubes to simulate gas attacks.



stage of the U.S. offensive in the Solomons.



The destroyer Smith fights at the Santa Cruz battle.



Gen. MacArthur (l) and an aide leave Corregidor.

PHOTOS BY AP/WIDE WORLD



**FLYIN' HIGH—U.S. bomber squadrons based in Britain began to fly missions over Europe.**

**1942**

on the Philippines where U.S. soldiers were fighting and dying. Gen. Douglas MacArthur, who had accepted command of the Commonwealth's defenses after retiring from the U.S. Army, was back in an American uniform and leading a combined force of 70,000 local troops, plus 19,000 U.S. soldiers garrisoned in the Philippines. Lacking reinforcements and fresh supplies, however, the Allies were no match for the jungle-trained Japanese combat veterans who had invaded Luzon, the Philippines' principal island. MacArthur's men fell back to the Bataan peninsula where they fought on heroically but hopelessly for three hellish months.

Ordered to Australia to organize and lead a counter-offensive, Mac-  
*Please turn to page 98*



**WAITING GAME—The crew of the Lexington was forced to abandon ship at Midway. It was a battle that all but crushed Japanese carrier strength.**

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# SOMEBODY TALKED

By Gurney Williams III

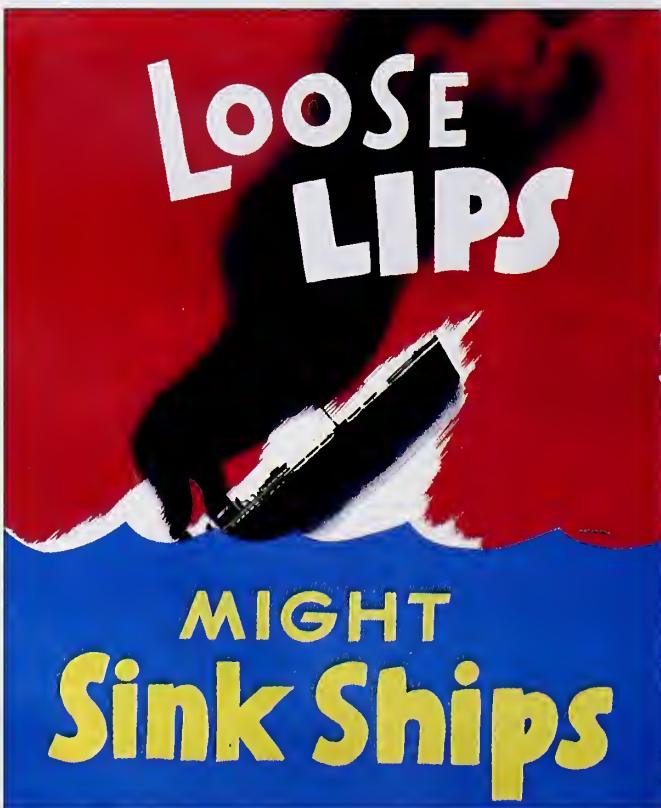
**T**HE specially modified B-17 took off from Chelveston, Britain, destined for seven target sites. It flew boldly over German lines and released a dozen bombs, the most powerful that writers could create: Each casing contained 80,000 single-sheet propaganda leaflets.

In just one flight in the fall of 1944, that plane from the 422nd Bomb Squadron, 305th Bomb Group, scattered 960,000 demoralizing messages to the enemy. Overall, the bombers in its group flew more than 500 sorties aimed at the hearts and souls of civilians and soldiers. Research at the time showed the missions succeeded. About 25 percent of German soldiers who fell into Allied hands as prisoners in 1944 were deserters, and nine out of 10 had pocketed our propaganda leaflets.

German Minister of Propaganda Joseph Goebbels thought he had us licked on the propaganda front. "Nothing is easier than leading the people on a leash," he once said. "I just hold up a dazzling campaign poster and they jump right through it." But in the course of the war, he forgot that the "big lie" isn't enough. American propaganda—leaflets, black-and-white films, static-filled radio broadcasts or Norman Rockwell posters—worked

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

*The Allies and Axis waged propaganda wars with radio broadcasts, leaflets, posters, movies and sometimes the truth.*



without misleading audiences. The magic bullet, we learned in World War II, was truth made simple.

One of the psychological-warfare soldiers who best understood this message was movie director Frank Capra. He was already renowned as the creator of such films as *It Happened One Night*,

with Clark Gable and Claudette Colbert, 1934, and *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington* with James Stewart and Jean Arthur, 1939. During the war, he used his understanding of the American character to turn out a series of top-flight documentaries titled *Why We Fight*.

The first of the series, *Prelude to War*, began with a stark image. Two globes hung in space, the white one representing the free world, the black one a symbol of the fascist world. It was the beginning of a progression of images that made audiences aware that fascism was a disease ravaging Europe. "Capra used his sense of America, captured in films like *Mr. Smith*, to make something a lot better than newsreels," said historian Allan M. Winkler, author of *The Politics of Propaganda: The Office of War Information 1942-1945*. "His films gave us a stirring sense that America was involved in a black-and-white struggle. But they also conveyed a sense of confidence that we could win the war." Hollywood treated them as art. *Prelude* won an Oscar in 1942 as the best documentary.

Our propagandists at the time knew a good thing when they saw it. A movie, said Elmer Davis, director of the Office of War Information (OWI), could be the most powerful instrument of propaganda in the world, without even trying.

That was why OWI created an office in Hollywood to advise moviemakers about how they could advance the war effort. Studios submitted scripts to this OWI branch office, called the Bureau of Motion Pictures (BMP).

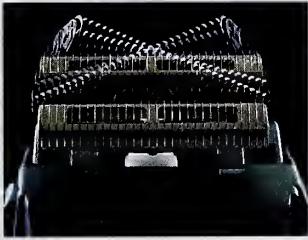
Occasionally, an OWI staffer turned screenwriter. For example, the BMP

Gurney Williams III is a New York-based journalist and writes on a variety of topics.

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suggested some lines for the movie *So Proudly We Hail*, a \$2 million spectacular about the siege of Bataan. As detailed by historians Clayton R. Koppes and Gregory D. Black, the BMP wanted a nurse destined for martyrdom in the film to talk about fascism as a disease that could have been prevented.

"Why are we dying?" asked the government script. "Why are we suffering?" The anguished answer: "We thought we . . . could not be affected by all the pestiferous, political spots elsewhere in the world. . . . We had to wait until this plague spread out further and further until it hit Pearl Harbor." The movie's makers shunned the specific words, but used some of the bureau's ideas.

The BMP liked another Academy Award winner in 1942, *Casablanca*, with Humphrey Bogart, because it dramatized a valiant underground and the United States as a safe port for the oppressed. But, Koppes and Black said, the bureau would have preferred Bogart's character, who wasn't converted to the Allied cause until the end of the film, to deliver an explicit message about how he discovered patriotism.

The best propagandists have always been masters of the simple message. "Good propaganda appeals to the emotions," said Manny Paraschos, professor of mass communications at Emerson College in Boston. "Logic is not of the essence." Under these criteria, he said, the Germans produced the best propaganda movie of all, *Triumph of the Will*, directed by Leni Riefenstahl.

Filmed in 1934, it began with a scene of an airplane descending from the clouds, carrying Hitler like "a god descending from the heavens," Paraschos said. In the original version, the movie goes on for hours, he said, "showing scenes of farm life, children, workers, all glorifying their great leader" who eventually arrives at a rally at Nuremberg.

There, the camera shoots him from beneath, looking up at him like a god speaking his mind. All the Nazi symbols are there: torches, smoke, endless rows of people. "It's hair-raising," Paraschos said.

But the history of World War II suggests that simple truth can be as powerful as big-lie cinema spectacles. One of the most effective American leaflets, for example, was called *Invitation to Breakfast*. The post-card-sized leaflet offered space for a German

soldier to write in his family's address if he were captured. Instructions in German told the soldier to hand the card to an Allied officer, who would mail it to the prisoner's family. The reverse side carried a devastating message to the German home front.

"Do not worry about me," the message said. "The war is over for me. I have good food. The American Army gives its prisoners the same food as its own soldiers: beef, white bread, potatoes, beans, prunes, coffee, butter,



**PROPAGANDA POWER — War posters like this one depicted the war in terms of good versus evil.**

tobacco, etc." The unadorned reference to foods scarce in Germany easily rivaled Hitler's best moments on screen. And the German army knew it. According to Gladys and Marcella Thum, authors of *The Persuaders*, officers began buying the leaflets from soldiers for a few marks each, just to keep the propaganda out of circulation.

**H**ISTORIAN Winkler argued the best propaganda the United States produced was our radio broadcasts, beamed worldwide. The truth in these transmissions was heard by huge audiences in countries where "official" spokesmen often lied.

"The broadcasts gave an honest sense of what was going on in the United States," Winkler said. "The programs covered riots on the streets of Detroit or Harlem as well as war production successes. There were features portraying democracy in Muncie, Ind.

And portraits of people like Joe DiMaggio and Arturo Toscanini with foreign-sounding names who were Americans."

The Japanese tried hard in their propaganda broadcasts to appeal to American traditions. That was why so many GIs in the Pacific listened to Tokyo Rose who played good American jazz between taunting programs designed to raise soldiers' fears that their girlfriends were unfaithful in their absence.

Tokyo Rose was actually a dozen women, one of whom was an American. Iva Toguri D'Aquino, from Los Angeles, was visiting a sick aunt in Japan when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. Unable to go home, she married and took a job with the Japanese Broadcasting Company for about \$10 a week for the daily 15-minute shows. In one, she said: "Orphans of the Pacific, you are really orphans now. How will you get home now that your ships are sunk?" The statement was used after the war to convict her of treason. She was sentenced to seven years, and paid a \$10,000 fine, but received a presidential pardon in 1977.

Experts disagree on how effective the "Rose" broadcasts were. Paraschos said the programs might have raised irritating suspicions among soldiers that their wives and girlfriends were deserting them. Garth Jowett, professor of communications at the University of Houston and co-author, with Victoria O'Donnell, of *Propaganda and Persuasion*, called the Japanese propaganda "naïve."

"It was a total misreading of the American psyche," said Jowett. "The Japanese thought Americans were preoccupied with sex. But Americans knew she was phony, and found the whole thing hilarious—although they listened because she played good music."

"I tell my students that the most successful form of propaganda is the truth," said Jowett.

That's not to say that everyone in America agreed on what the truth was. We know today that the leaders of America's propaganda brigades were often in conflict with each other. During the early months of World War II, Americans heard a babble of sometimes contradictory war information from Washington's bureaucrats. President Franklin D. Roosevelt realized he had to provide a single, clarion voice for

*Please turn to page 115*

# GOVERNMENT ISSUE WORLD WAR II WATCH



Technical Sergeant Francis L. Garrett, Company A, 1st Battalion, 71st Infantry Regiment, 44th Division. Toured European Theater of Operations. Still plays golf (in the mid-80's!) and averages a solid 180 in bowling. Age: 76 Retired: Carefree, Arizona.



The turmoil, 50 years ago, is commemorated in this Authentic Government Issue Timepiece!

About a year ago, I went on a search for a special gift for my 76 year old Uncle. He often spoke of his tenure during the war somewhat "warmly," even though those were difficult times. After checking the Yellow Pages I ventured to the Army/Navy surplus store. While browsing I came across an authentic World War II Government Issue Watch. It was fascinating. All that remained was the original case and face. The mechanical movement had long since stopped working, and the original band had rotted away. But, the military dial and government stamping on the back side were too interesting to pass up I said.... "I'll take it!"

The price tag: \$200.00!!! After getting it home to my uncle it was worth every penny of it. The smile and conversation alone went a long, long way.

## Accurate in Every Detail!

So I got to thinking, why not recreate this piece of history for everyone to enjoy? Its been in the works now for over a year and after several attempts, we finally got it right. Sure, we updated to a modern quartz movement accurate to within five seconds a month. And for good measure we added a thick mottled Genuine Leather Strap. But the case, the military dial, the luminescent numbering, and even the original government order information and stampings have all been replicated in every detail.

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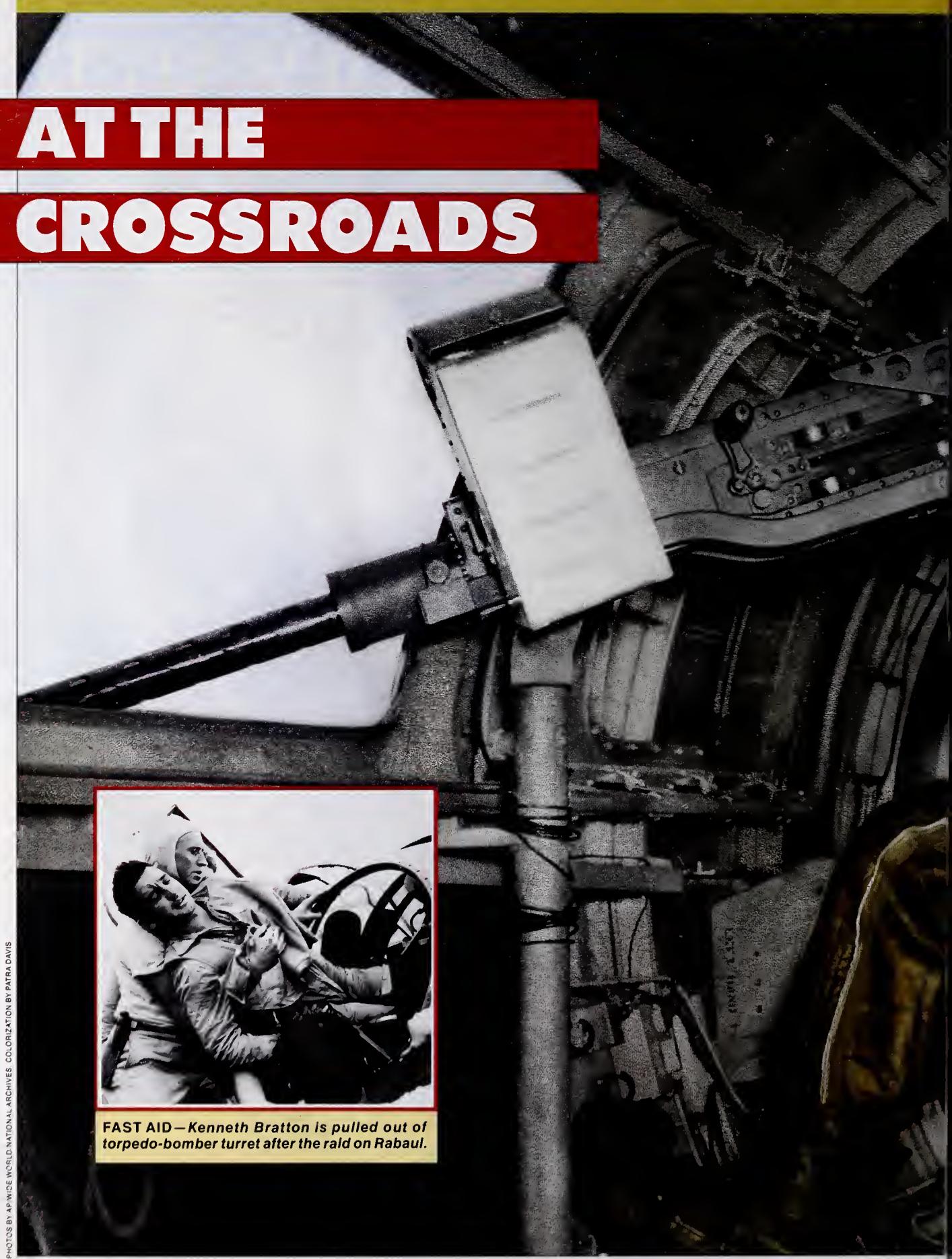
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# AT THE CROSSROADS



**FAST AID** — Kenneth Bratton is pulled out of torpedo-bomber turret after the raid on Rabaul.

PHOTOS BY AP/WIDE WORLD/NATIONAL ARCHIVES COLORIZATION BY PATRA DAVIS

1943



ROAD TO BERLIN—Allied bombing of German-held Europe increased, including this raid at Marienburg.

DETERMINED to maintain Allied momentum, Roosevelt and Churchill met in Casablanca, Morocco, Jan. 14-24. Churchill persuaded FDR to follow up the North African campaign with an invasion of Sicily and then Italy, aiming at the so-called “soft underbelly” of Hitler’s Europe. Always prescient, Churchill wanted the Western allies rather than Stalin’s Russia to oversee the postwar reorganization of Europe. Despite Stalin’s displeasure at the Anglo-American delay in opening a second front, D-Day in Europe would have to wait another year. Meantime, Soviet armies, heavily supplied by the United States, slowly began driving back the Germans along the entire Eastern front.

At the insistence of Adm. Ernest King, Chief of U.S. Naval Operations and Commander of the Fleet, there would be no let up in America’s offensive in the Pacific. The “Big Two” also called for an increase in the strategic bombing of Germany. And in an apparent euphoric afterthought, Roosevelt announced that World War II would end only with the enemy’s “unconditional surrender,” something critics feared would only stiffen Axis resistance and prolong the fighting.

Whatever the case, there was no mistaking the Allies’ strategic bombing objectives: “The destruction and dislocation of the German military, industrial and economic system and the undermining of the morale of the German people to the point where their capacity for armed resistance is fatally weakened.” While the RAF bombed German cities by night, the U.S. 8th Air Forces’ B-17 “Flying Fortresses” and B-24 “Liberators,” now equipped with high precision

HIGH GROUND—Waist gunners helped protect their bombers by watching for German fighters over Europe’s skies.



ACES—Lexington pilots celebrate the downing of Japanese planes.

SANDSTORM—Rommel's troops were finally pushed out of North Africa.

BLOOD 'N' GUTS—Gen. Patton talks strategy in Sicily with a commander.

1943

Norden bombsights, struck by day at industrial targets.

On Oct. 18, more than 200 U.S. bombers targeted Nazi ball-bearing plants at Schweinfurt. Sixty-three of the attacking aircraft were shot down, another 138 damaged. Yet, the bombing continued. In November, Berlin was hit with the first of continuing Allied air raids. And in December, after the arrival in England of long-range U.S. P-51 fighter escorts, Allied bomber losses finally were reduced. Now, as many as 1,000 bombers a day were ranging across Germany, with slowly diminishing resistance.

Although air power alone did not knock Germany out of the war, Allied armies by mid-May 1943 had forced the surrender of the last of Field Marshal Rommel's Afrika Korps. But not before the Germans in late February routed green troops of the newly arrived U.S. 34th Infantry Division at Kasserine Pass in western Tunisia. Although Rommel later withdrew to avoid being outflanked by Allied reinforcements, he had won a tactical victory. And it was his last. Regrouping, the Allies captured Tunis on May 13, taking 275,000 prisoners, more than Germany lost at Stalingrad. The liberation of North Africa now was complete. Later, Rommel would write of the Americans after their comeback from Kasserine Pass:



FIELD OF FIRE—After the victory at Tarawa, which cost about 1,000 Marines' lives, U.S. troo



DEPT OF DEFENSE



AP/WIDEWORLD



LIFELINE—A wounded GI receives blood plasma from an Army medic.

CANADIAN CLUB—FDR, Churchill and Canadian Prime Minister King meet in Quebec.

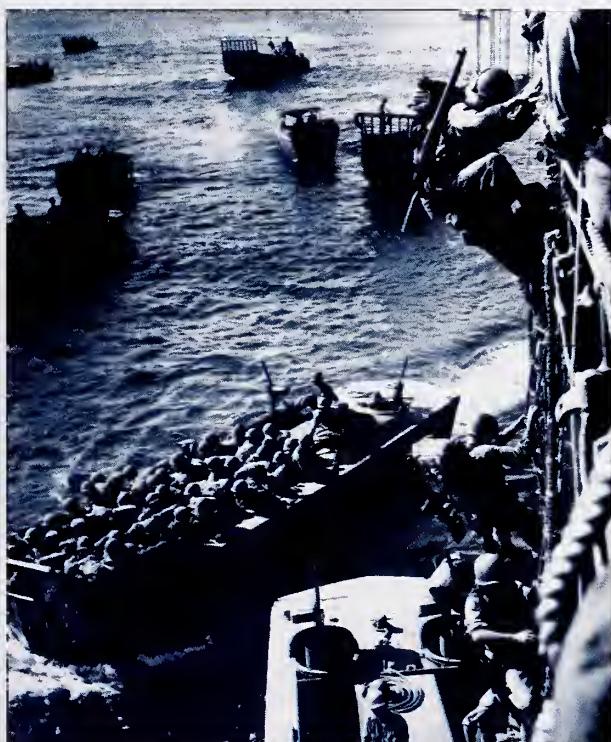
HAPPY LANDING—A Liberator bomber passes over P-40 fighters in China.



secure a Japanese pillbox.



TAKE FIVE—An Army sergeant restfully mimics an Italian soldier war memorial in Sicily.



PHOTOS BY NATIONAL ARCHIVES

SEMPER PARATUS—Troops leave a Coast Guard ship for barges in the Bougainville invasion.



NATIONAL ARCHIVES

**FLYING FISH**—GIs pause to look at a downed Japanese seaplane at the Battle of Bokin.

**1943**

"What was really amazing was the speed with which they adapted themselves to modern warfare. They were assisted in this by their tremendous practical and material sense and by their lack of tradition and useless theories."

On July 10, less than two months after North Africa's liberation, 180,000 Allied troops landed in Sicily from a 1,375-ship armada. It was the largest amphibious force yet assembled, making the first full-scale use of LSTs and other new ship-to-shore troop, tank and cargo carriers. Gen. George S. Patton's 7th Army took the left flank; the British 8th drove up the island's right, or eastern, side. War-weary Italian troops offered little resistance. The outnumbered Germans

Please turn to page 110



AP/WIDE WORLD

**STACKED**—Space is tight, but troops aboard this LST bound for North Africa find room to sleep and talk about the combat ahead of them.

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# THE GI JOURNALIST

**H**E WAS known as the "GI journalist" and a "soldier's best friend" in World War II. He walked through mud and crouched in foxholes, he thumbed rides in jeeps, tanks and aboard ships. He didn't file his stories from safe, rear-echelon posts, but hammered them out as bullets whistled overhead and shells exploded around him.

Journalist Ernie Pyle wrote about life on the frontlines—ordinary men from ordinary towns. In simple words and detail, Pyle made them seem extraordinary. Tragically, Pyle's life was ended in 1945 by a Japanese bullet on Ie Shima, near the island of Okinawa.

Following are just a few of the dispatches the "GI journalist" sent to readers in the United States during the war:

\*\*\*

The thing that always amazed me about those inhuman night movements of troops in war areas was how good-natured the men were about it. A certain fundamental appreciation of the ridiculous carried them through. As we slogged along, slipping and crawling and getting muddier and muddier, the soldier behind me said, "I'm going to write my congressman about this." Another soldier answered, "Hell, I don't even know who my congressman is. I did three years ago, but I don't now."

\*\*\*

It was almost morning when the

*Ernie Pyle dodged bullets but met deadlines to file his front-line stories about the common soldier.*



**GREEN COLLAR WRITER**—Ernie Pyle's writing told readers at home what it was like to be a GI in World War II.

company reached its bivouac area and dug its foxholes into the mud. Always, that was the first thing to do. It became pure instinct. The drippy, misty dawn found us dispersed and hidden in the bottom of shallow depressions of our own digging, eating cold C-rations.

The men attacked just after dawn. The Germans were only a short distance away. I stayed behind when the company went forward. Within a week, five of my eight closest friends were dead or wounded. That's the way it is in war.

I will probably never again see the men in that outfit. But to me, they will always be "my" company. It was company "E" of the 168th Infantry of the 34th Division. God bless 'em.

\*\*\*

One of the vital responsibilities during the opening weeks of our war on the continent of Europe was the protection of our unloading beaches and ports. American anti-aircraft gunners began playing their important part in the Battle of Normandy right on D-Day and shortly after H-hour. Ordinarily, you wouldn't think of anti-aircraft coming ashore with the infantry, but a little bit of everything came ashore on that memorable day—from riflemen to press censors, from combat engineers to chaplains—and everybody had a hand in it.

As it turned out, the Germans didn't use their planes at all and the ack-ack wasn't needed to protect the landings from air attack. So, like many other units, they turned themselves into infantry or artillery and helped win the battle of the beaches. They took infantry-like casualties, too.

\*\*\*

One night in central Tunisia I was sitting in the room looking over a six-weeks-old copy of an American picture

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<input type="checkbox"/> BLOOD PRESSURE <input type="checkbox"/> HIGH <input type="checkbox"/> LOW <input type="checkbox"/> NORMAL _____			
EXISTING CONDITIONS _____			
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**KILLED IN ACTION—The 77th Inf. Div. built a memorial to Pyle, who was killed during the invasion of Ie Shima in the Pacific.**

magazine. It was full of photos and stories of the war; dramatic tales from the Solomons, from Russia, and right from our own African front. The magazine fascinated me and, when I had finished, I felt an animation about the war I hadn't felt in weeks.

For in the magazine the war seemed romantic and exciting, full of heroics and vitality. I knew it really was, and yet I didn't seem capable of feeling it. Only in the magazine from America could I catch the real spirit of the war over here.

One of the pictures was of the long concrete quay where we had landed in Africa. It gave me a tingle to look at it. For some perverse reason it was more thrilling to look at the picture than it had been to march along the dock itself that first day.

Was war dramatic or wasn't it? Certainly there were great tragedies, unbelievable heroism, even a constant undertone of comedy. But when I sat down to write, I saw instead: men at the front suffering and wishing they were somewhere else, men in routine jobs just behind the lines belly aching because they couldn't get to the front, all of them desperately hungry for someone to talk to besides themselves, no women to be heroes in front of, damned

little wine to drink, precious little song, cold and fairly dirty, just toiling from day to day in a world full of insecurity, discomfort, homesickness and a dulled sense of danger.

The drama and romance were here, of course, but they were like the famous falling tree in the forest—they were no good unless there was somebody around to hear.

I knew of only twice that the war would be romantic to men: once they could see the Statue of Liberty and again on their first day back in the home town with the folks.

\*\*\*

As a noncombatant, my own life was in danger only by occasional chance or circumstance. Consequently, I didn't need to think of killing in personal terms, and killing to me was still murder.

Even after a winter of living with wholesale death and vile destruction, it was only spasmodically that I seemed capable of realizing how real and how awful the war was. My emotions seemed dead and crusty when presented with the tangibles of war. I found I could look on rows of fresh graves without a lump in my throat. Somehow I could look on mutilated bodies

without flinching or feeling deeply.

It was only when I sat alone away from it all or lay at night in my bedroll recreating what I had seen, thinking and thinking and thinking, that at last the enormity of all those newly dead struck like a living nightmare. Then there were times I felt I couldn't stand it and would have to leave.

But to the fighting soldier that phase of the war was behind. It was left behind after his first battle. His blood was up. He was fighting for his life, and killing for him was as much a profession as writing was for me.

In one respect, the front-line soldier differed from all the rest of us. All the rest of us—you and me and even the thousands of soldiers behind the lines in Africa—we wanted terribly yet only academically for the war to be over. The front-line soldier wanted it to be terminated by the physical process of his destroying enough Germans to end it. He was truly at war. The rest of us, no matter how hard we worked, were not. Say what you will, nothing can make a complete soldier except battle experience.

\*\*\*

That is our war, and we will carry it with us as we go on from one battlefield to another until it is all over, leaving some of us behind on every beach, in every field. I don't know whether it was their good fortune or misfortune to get out of it so early in the game.

I guess it doesn't make any difference, once a man has gone. Medals and speeches and victories are nothing to them any more. They died and others lived and nobody knows why it is so. They died and thereby the rest of us can go on and on. When we leave here for the next shore, there is nothing we can do for the ones beneath the wooden crosses, except perhaps to pause and murmur, "Thanks, pal."

*From a letter from Joseph Willis, Metairie, La.: ". . . During the invasion of Okinawa in 1945, I assisted the medics on the beachhead with the wounded and helped identify the casualties.*

*"On April 18, 1945, one of those casualties was Ernie Pyle. He was killed by an enemy machine gun. Because of his love for the common GI, Pyle was working at the front line. And to think this was our last invasion. The war ended a short time later.*

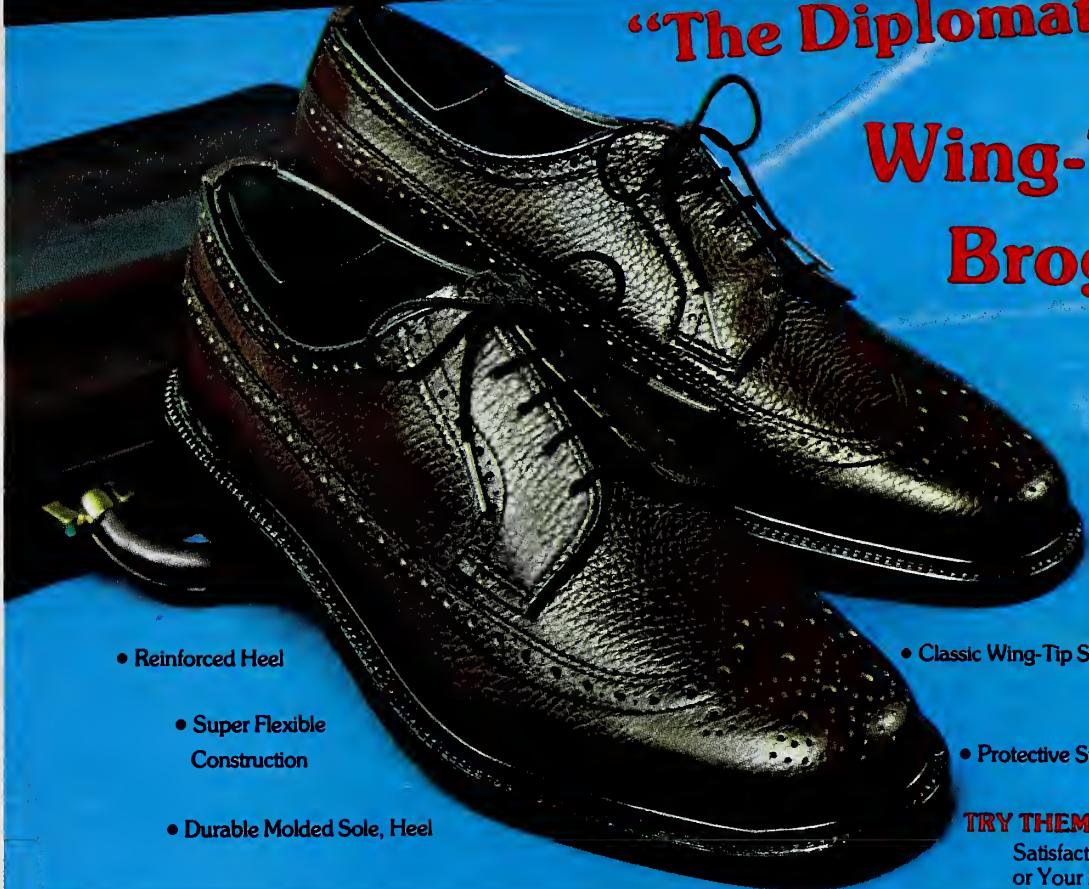
*"Ernie Pyle was a friend and a hero to the American GI."* □

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# HEAT OF BATTLE

By Gen. W. C. Westmoreland

**W**ORLD War II is thought by some as a war fought and won primarily with machinery. The image of victory in Europe is one of columns of tanks and skies filled with thundering bombers.

Japan was brought to her knees by the most powerful armada in the history of naval warfare and then, the two B-29s that ushered in the nuclear age. But there is one element without whose presence none of this would have been possible: the American fighting man.

In the late 1930s, we watched Hitler and Tojo march across foreign borders, darkening the globe in their wake. It was frightening, but at this time in our nation's history, the government's policy was one of isolationism; recalcitrant to a martial buildup of both men and machinery—although the latter was being addressed—in a futile effort to stay out of a war we thought was somebody else's. Our innocence came to an abrupt end on Dec. 7, 1941, with Japan's unprovoked bombing of Pearl Harbor.

Americans from every walk of life answered the call to arms: mechanics, students and farmers one day—U.S. soldiers, airmen, sailors and Marines the next. By war's end, the American serviceman had fought on more battlefields than any other soldier in the world, had achieved victory after vic-

tory against all foes and was held in the highest esteem as the staunchest ally. And he earned a reputation as both a fierce fighter and compassionate liberator. His success was the result of five primary factors: duty, challenge, training, morale and survival.

From the moment a man entered the service, he was constantly challenged to perform better than he ever had before. Every individual had to put himself to the test through stress and

of civilized man in their quest for world domination. Many recruits had never been exposed to this type of adversity, so it was imperative that they be fully prepared to engage such an enemy. It was sometimes hard for "boots" to see how some of their drills eventually would pay off, but their performance on the battlefield would be guided by the hard training.

After such training, what is it that will enable a GI placed in the middle of the horrors of combat to go back again and again? The answer is high morale. Our soldiers and sailors knew that the Americans were behind "their boys" all the way. Factories throughout the land retooled to equip them with the finest weapons in the world, and the entertainment industry "rallied round the flag" to provide that needed boost with information and entertainment.

Next, the troops knew they could count on their leaders—most imbued with the importance of leadership by example. America's fighting men were heroes in our society.

Ultimately, the American military served valiantly under the strains of combat, individually and collectively. Our country was fighting for its very existence, which was unique, as the blood of battle had not been spilled on our land in the 20th century. That is what motivated our troops to go into a battle zone and accomplish their assigned missions, regardless of the cost. Also, they fought for the pride of their unit and the approval of their peers, and each man was instilled with the concept that he would not let his buddies down.

To the American fighting man, the price of victory was great, but so were the accomplishments. □



IWO JIMA—About 7,000 Marines died during the battle at Iwo Jima in February 1945.

strain to reach his limits and goals, and only then could he see how much he really did accomplish—and most were surprised by their own performance. Being able to demonstrably exceed their own expectations was a tremendous boost to morale.

Military training is rigorous by design, and had to be even more so in this particular instance because of the nature of our enemies: Germany and Japan were paramilitary societies and ours was not. We were going up against seasoned soldiers who had already fought and won in several geographical areas. The Nazis and imperialist Japanese had violated every convention

Gen. William C. Westmoreland of South Carolina served as an Army combat commander in World War II and was commander in chief of U.S. forces in Vietnam.



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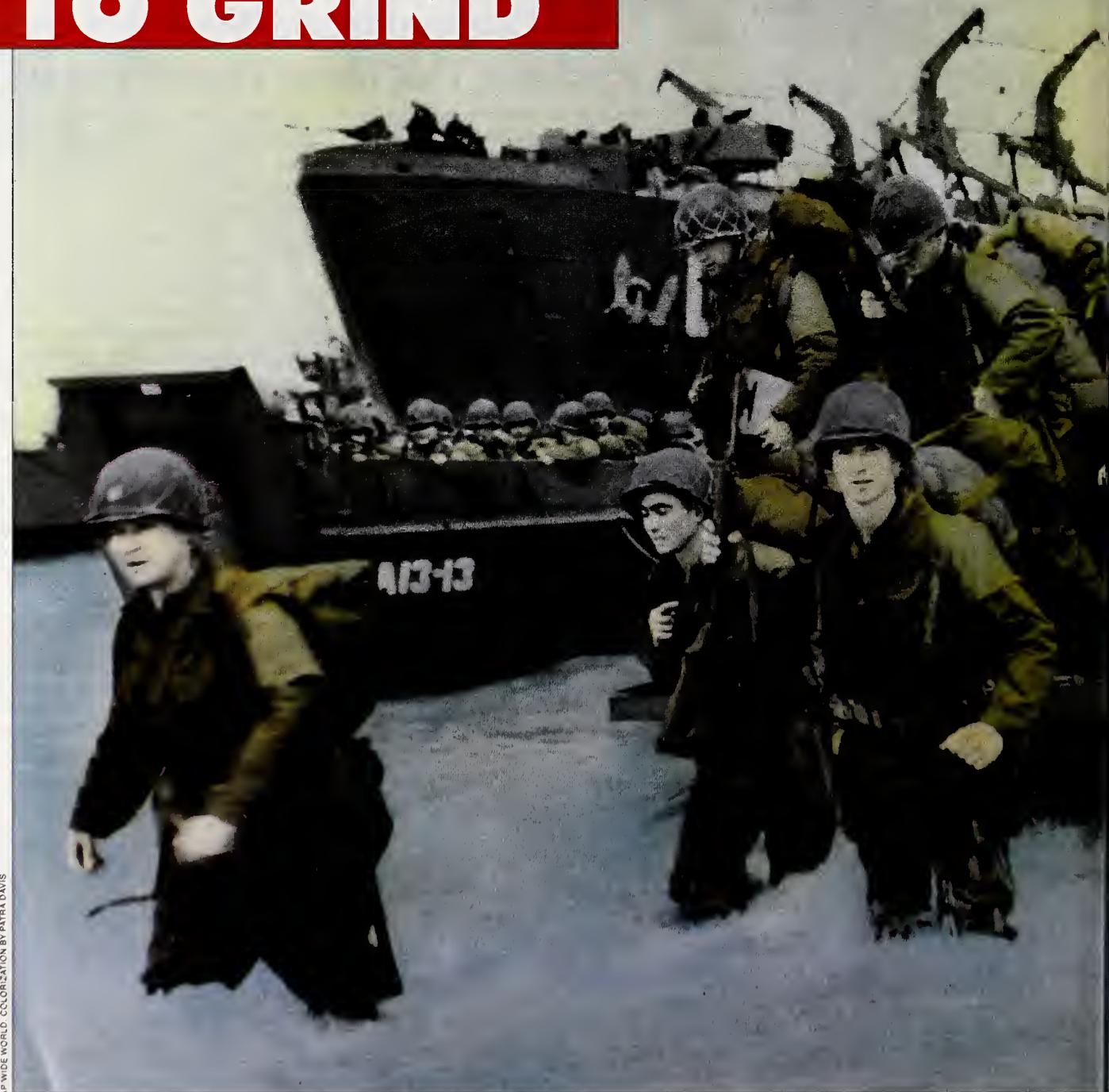
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# AXIS TO GRIND



AP/WIDEWORLD COLORIZATION BY PATRA DAVIS

1944



**THE LONGEST DAY**—The D-Day invasion that began on June 6 was the largest amphibious assault ever.



FOR THE embattled Axis, the new year would mark “the beginning of the end.” Italy had surrendered and Mussolini was deposed, his days numbered. On the Russian front, massive Soviet armies ground relentlessly westward, reaching Poland and East Prussia by year’s end. In the far Pacific, powerful U.S. air, land and sea offensives would link as they moved ever nearer to Japan. Elsewhere, rising hopes and fears centered on England and the imminent cross-channel invasion of Hitler’s Europe.

In preparation for D-Day, the Allies had assembled the mightiest assault force in history: nearly 3 million men—including 1.7 million Americans—backed by 16 million tons of arms, munitions and supplies. Also in readiness: 5,000 warships and supporting vessels, 4,000 landing craft and 12,000 aircraft.

Commanding “Operation Overlord” was Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, the genial Kansan with a talent for bringing diverse people and pieces together and making them work. As Britain’s Gen. Bernard Montgomery said of Ike: “He merely has to smile at you and you trust him



DEPT. OF DEFENSE

**FACE OF WAR**—Wounded GIs found temporary sanctuary at the base of a chalk cliff at Omaha Beach, a major assault area in the Normandy invasion.



PEP TALK—Gen. Eisenhower meets with paratroopers on the eve of D-Day.

MOBILE SHIELD—9th Infantry troops move carefully through a Belgium town.

CHRISTMAS—The 101st Airborne command staff at dinner in Bastogne.

1944

at once." Yet, in the early months of 1944, Eisenhower also had his critics. Allied commanders in Italy complained that "Operation Overlord" was draining their hard-fought campaign of needed support. The advance in Italy had been stalled for weeks at Cassino, before Germany's formidable "Gustav Line." On June 4, battle-weary GIs entered the Eternal City amid cheers, flowers and kisses. The Germans retreated without a fight.

Two days later, on June 6, the long-awaited liberation of Europe began. Eisenhower had told his forces before they left England: "You are embarking upon a great crusade." Before dawn, 24,000 U.S. and British airborne troops, including the U.S. 82nd and 101st Airborne divisions, were dropped behind German lines, followed by massive air and naval bombardments. Nearly 2,000 bombers hit enemy defenses. Offshore, more than 200 warships fired up to 200 tons of shells a minute.

At 0630 hours, under gray overcast skies, the first waves of D-Day's initial 150,000-man invasion force struggled ashore as the German guns opened up. Many of the men never made it as their landing craft were hit and blown up, or capsized in the heavy surf. At Utah Beach, the U.S. 4th Infantry Division had it somewhat easier because a flood



FLOATING FORTRESS—U.S. battleships prepare to "soften" Japanese troops on Saipan in



CLEANUP—GIs pose with a German tank and flag in France.



GUN DONE—This giant Nazi gun battery was silenced by U.S. bombers.



FLAG MEN—Two officers plant the U.S. Flag at the invasion of Guam.



HE RETURNED—Gen. MacArthur wades ashore at Leyte.



LIBERATION—Jubilant Romans welcome the 5th Army.

in the central Pacific.



AP/WIDE WORLD

GIs IN PARIS—As the war grinds to an end, troops march in a victory parade down the Champs-Elysees in Paris.

1944

plain lay directly inland, and the Germans didn't expect a landing there. But at Omaha, the American 1st and 29th divisions were hit hard before securing their beachhead. In one singular act of heroism, a U.S. Ranger company, using ropes and ladders borrowed from the London Fire Department, scaled *Pointe du Hoc*, a steep and forbidding cliff, to knock out enemy coastal guns. The guns had been moved, so the Rangers attacked enemy pillboxes instead.

By Day Two, 34,250 troops were ashore at Omaha Beach, 36,250 at Utah, and 83,115 on the British and Canadian beaches. Inland, Adolf Hitler slept through the early hours of the invasion. Also away from the action was the Wehrmacht's best

Please turn to page 112



AP/WIDE WORLD

ROAD WARRIOR—French children watch convoys of American trucks and equipment through the destruction that once was St. Lo.

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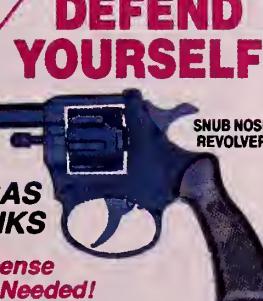
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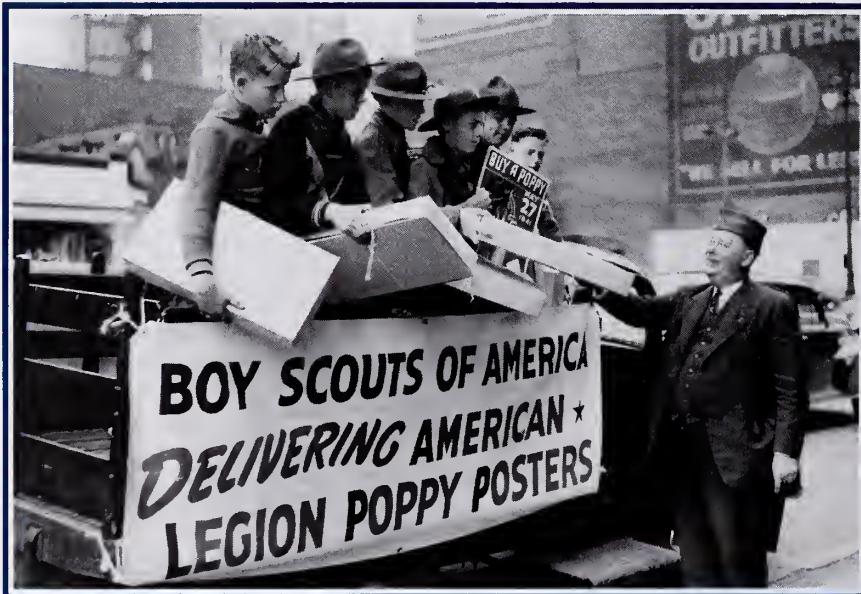
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# THE LEGION GOES TO WAR

Legionnaires answered the call to defend the nation by serving as 'retreads' and leading defense efforts at home.



HOME FRONT HEROES—During the war, the Legion began several projects, such as this poppy sale, to support U.S. troops.

JAPAN'S attack against American installations at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, settled all questions in the minds of Legionnaires about U.S. intervention in World War II. Suddenly the war was on America's doorstep, and the nation's largest veterans' organization, 1.2 million strong with a 500,000-member Auxiliary, made winning the war its No. 1 job.

Within a year, 100,000 Legionnaires would rejoin the ranks as self-styled "retreads" while the United States strained to mobilize for war. THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

chronicled the saga of an unprepared industrial behemoth gearing for war and the role Legionnaires played overseas and at home to hasten its end. The January 1942 issue was the Legion's first chance to respond to the shock of Pearl Harbor. The temper of the times was apparent in the magazine's cover illustration, which depicted a scowling New Year's Baby wearing a World War I style helmet and carrying an M-1 rifle. Tanks and airplanes on the move were in the background representing the nation's mobilization for war.

Inside the cover, then-National Commander Lynn U. Stambaugh of North Dakota pledged the Legion's unequivocal support: "Every Legion-

naire and his family is at the service of the U.S. government for the No. 1 job of winning this war. I have told that to President Roosevelt: I know that every Legionnaire wanted me to say it. Thousands of World War veterans and their sons are in the uniform of their country's Armed Forces. Those of us who must remain at civilian tasks will back up the nation's military and naval personnel with everything we've got."

As the nation's largest veterans' organization, the Legion was positioned to do the most good. Government officials recognized the advantage of having a tightly knit, motivated pool of former soldiers, sailors and Marines ready to "Back the Attack" by stepping in for the younger generation called to active duty.

Legionnaires were to fill the gaps in a dozen vital areas—scrap drives, tirelessly selling war bonds and stamps, opening Legion Posts and even Legionnaires' homes to homesick men and women in uniform, giving blood, and comprising the backbone of the Office of Civilian Defense. The Legionnaires' renewed dedication to duty was recognized early in the war by Army Chief of Staff Gen. George C. Marshall, who knew from experience that not all duties on the home front rated headline coverage.

"The present emergency," Marshall wrote, "imposes additional responsibilities on the members of The American Legion. It demands a leadership in the patriotic guidance of affairs on the home front to an even greater degree than in the past. Arduous duties, usually unspectacular in their nature, but critical in importance to the security of the nation, must continue to be performed by the veterans who unselfishly met the issue in the last war. The unwavering and devoted support of your solid ranks of veterans is unquestioned, and will continue to be of inestimable value to the soldiers under arms today."

Among the roughly 10 percent of Legionnaires who returned to active duty were Legion founders Col. Theodore Roosevelt Jr. and Brig. Gen. Eric Fisher Wood.

Pearl Harbor scuttled all discussion of the propriety of U.S. involvement in a war by then two years old; and in those pre-war days there was plenty of pro and con whether the United States should stay neutral. From Germany's invasion of Poland in September 1939, until late 1941, the official Legion

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**1000 MG VITAMIN C** 88¢  
WITH ROSE HIPS TABLETS EXPIRES 9/30/91  
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**1200 MG LECITHIN** 149  
19 GRAIN CAPSULES  
100 FOR 149  
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**GINSENG** 149  
250 MG TABLETS  
100 FOR 149  
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**COD LIVER OIL CAPSULES** 119  
100 FOR 119  
LIMIT ONE OF ANY SIZE TO A FAMILY  
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**GARLIC OIL 500 MG CAPSULES** 75¢  
100 FOR 75¢  
LIMIT ONE OF ANY SIZE TO A FAMILY  
500-\$3.55 1000-\$8.75 EXPIRES 9/30/91

**50 MG CHELATED ZINC GLUCONATE TABLETS** 179  
100 FOR 179  
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500-\$7.25 1000-\$14.00 EXPIRES 9/30/91

**14 OZ. PLAIN GARLIC OIL** 298  
14 OZ. ORANGE GARLIC OIL EACH  
SAVE! THREE FOR \$8.75!  
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**1000 MCG VITAMIN B-12 TABLETS** 289  
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LIMIT ONE OF ANY SIZE TO A FAMILY  
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**250 MG PAPAYA ENZYME TABLETS** 165  
250 FOR 165  
LIMIT ONE OF ANY SIZE TO A FAMILY  
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QUANTITY SIZE NAME OF PRODUCT TOTAL PRICE

1000 MG FISH OIL CAPS COMPARE TO MaxEPA® & PROTACHOL®  
100 \$ 5.50 400 \$19.50 800 \$35.00

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MAIL ORDER COUPON "GenEPA" 97™  
1,000 MG FISH OIL CAPS COMPARE TO MaxEPA® & PROTACHOL®  
100 \$ 5.50 400 \$19.50 800 \$35.00

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MAIL ORDER COUPON 1132 MG CRANBERRY CAPS A FRIEND TO URINARY TRACT HEALTH!  
100 FOR \$3.00 250-\$6.00

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MAIL ORDER COUPON 500 MG VITAMIN C  
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**WINGING IT** — The Legion served a dinner to 45,000 GIs, including Medal of Honor winner Sgt. James R. Hendrix and Pfc. Martha Souders.

policy, favored neutrality, like the U.S. government's. A Legion spokesman said in October 1939, "The best service the U.S. government can render to its people and to the world is to keep free of this war. . . . All the study of the history of the past advises us our duty must be to America First."

The group's "America First" stance did not mean the Legion was isolationist and did not prevent Legion backing for preparedness measures like the Citizens Military Training Camps, composed primarily of Depression-bred Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) youngsters; and supporting the nation's first peacetime draft in 1940. In 1938, the Legion joined with The American Red Cross to cooperate in disaster-relief, first aid and rescue efforts, work which was expanded in wartime to include a massive blood donor program.

By the outbreak of hostilities Legionnaires already were an integral component of the U.S. Office of Civilian Defense (OCD), the domestic security agency created by special executive order May 20, 1941, and headed by New York City's colorful Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia. LaGuardia, a Legionnaire, appointed Nebraska Legionnaire Henry H. "Hank" Dudley to head the OCD Veterans Groups Division, which operated nine regional offices corresponding to the jurisdiction of the nine Army Corps districts. Seven of the nine directors were Legionnaires who mobilized Legion

Posts and Auxiliary units to set up state, county and community defense councils.

As war began, the Allies were in retreat at every turn; Axis sabotage and propaganda were put into high gear and token shellings from enemy submarines on both coasts were dangerous, not so much for the damage done but for what the shellings warned for the future. The familiar yellow and black civil defense patches were soon stitched on shoulders of the thousands of Legionnaires who donated their after-work time guarding power plants, dams, bridges and other key installations. Some Legionnaires trained long hours at no pay learning skills to become auxiliary policemen, firefighters and firewatchers, and others volunteered for the Legion's Citizens Defense Training program, credited with training 1.2 million air raid wardens. ("Hey you, put out that light!")

The Legion played its part to mobilize the home-front populace into a great civilian army whose watchword was preparedness, the same message the Legion had been trumpeting about our Armed Forces before war came. In the May 1942 issue of THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE titled, "Wanted: You," the Legion suggested these words be posted in capital letters on every public square: "While the call may never come, we would deserve everything we got if when it came we were not prepared to cope with what-

ever the enemy might throw at us."

Legionnaires employed by Chicago's Commonwealth Edison formed their own auxiliary defense corps, eventually 900 strong, which helped safeguard their firm's power stations and supplemented fire, police and other emergency services.

A wounded soldier fighting his widowed mother's eviction from her Leechburg, Pa., home got help from the local Legion Post. Army gunner Grant Abersold spent nine months in a hospital after being wounded in action in New Guinea, only to find his family in tough straits after his medical discharge. "It's tough to come home after serving your country and find your mother being tossed out on the street," the young veteran told a local newspaper. "It doesn't go down very good." Thanks to the Legion's intercession, a judge ordered the landlord to give the family a six-month reprieve until the wounded veteran could get back on his feet.

Posts throughout the country competed in boosting morale at home. Thousands of communities with Legion help erected honor rolls in their public squares featuring the names of local men and women in service. Legionnaires also spearheaded drives to send everything from cigarettes to jazz and swing records overseas. These "care packages" helped bring a touch of home to troops in distant lands, a tradition Legionnaires continue today through the Family Support Network.

Those distant war fronts came alive to the folks at home thanks to splendid wartime reporting by Legion correspondents and illustrators. Battle reports by Hamilton Greene, Boyd Stutler, John Groth and others made civilians appreciate that enduring shortages paled in comparison to the sacrifices of the fighting men and women.

When the end came later in the year, none were more grateful for peace than veterans of the previous world war who, with a new generation of Legionnaires, looked ahead to life free from the taint of totalitarian repression.

The Legion worked for final victory in the ranks and on the home front. And its dedication to those who bore the burden of war helped build the framework of education and job training opportunities for returning veterans—young Americans who were destined to use those new skills to build their own version of the "American Dream." By Anthony Miller □

# High Blood Pressure Can Now Be Lowered

ARE circulation problems affecting your health?  Cholesterol?  
 Clogged arteries?  Too many triglycerides?  Leg cramps?  
 High blood pressure?  Numbness or tingling? (See below):

**D**rugs often don't work—but the hidden truths found in this ad could change your life.

You see, doctors now say that more than HALF of the Americans who have high blood pressure are *unaware* of it.

It's true. High blood pressure IS an odd problem. It is not a normal human condition. *Ever*. And blood pressure drugs will *not* cure it and seem to cause unsafe side effects. But, I have found the answers.

## SECRETS IN THIS BOOK

The answers in this book, which firmly link circulatory problems to human diseases, offer all of us new hope. One University test has already found that 85.3% of victims could actually lower their blood pressure in a special way, without any drugs. And cholesterol levels dropped 26%. Triglycerides, too.

Good blood circulation, this book reveals, should reach *every* portion of your body for optimum health. Accept as an iron-clad fact that a lowered blood pressure will offer you a longer life expectancy.

## GET UNREPORTED DISCOVERIES

- The one needed food in the body—which should be 200% more than the other food.
- Many younger people now have high blood pressure. 66% of folks between 65 and 74 have it. Past age 75, it's 3 of 4. *Unnecessarily*.
- Salt is not the only villain. At all. Why it affects some—not others.
- Toxic metal poisoning can be a cause. Here's a test to find out.
- How HBP can ruin your sex life. What to do.
- 9 home tests you can use to detect upcoming circulatory problems.
- 1 of 2 Americans have a danger zone cholesterol level.
- Many cardiovascular medicines . . . plus aspirin, laxatives, caffeine, sleeping pills, and some diets can deplete critical nutrients. The book has a list.
- 3 best forms of exercise to alleviate high blood pressure.

- The one unsuspected food which makes blood pressure shoot up.
- Why relieving blood pressure so often helps with hemorrhoids, appendicitis, colon cancer . . . and helps weight loss.
- What 156/84 actually means. (Do you know?)
- "Miracle foods" which counteract even salt.

## NOTICE TO READERS WHO WANT TO ACT TO SAVE THEIR OWN LIFE

People are funny. They may say they know their blood pressure is too high, but when encouraged to try our book "The SECRETS To Control HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE" at our risk, they sometimes hesitate and shake their heads.

Well, doctors say your risk of developing heart ailments is SIX TIMES AS LIKELY if you leave high blood pressure undiagnosed and untreated. The chances of diabetes are 63% greater—a stroke is 400% more likely. High blood pressure can otherwise continue to damage blood vessels, a leading cause of hardening of the arteries.

This book contains many new breakthroughs: Rutgers University. Boston University Medical Center. Pritiken Longevity Center. American Heart Ass'n. The Seventh Day Adventist Church. Central Institute for Cardiovascular Research. Chinese folk herbalists. Mayo Foundation. The Australian Medical Ass'n. Maryland School of Medicine. All have put forth many of the discoveries revealed in this timely book.

## ARE CIRCULATORY PROBLEMS ENDANGERING YOUR HEALTH?

If you can lick a stamp, you can lick high blood pressure once and for all. And if your blood pressure ever again becomes a problem once you learn these secrets—and I mean EVER—you haven't lost a dime. Merely return the book for a full, every-penny-back refund.

Every day we see people who are aging too fast—because of this condition. The

grim warnings of the American Heart Ass'n., the Surgeon General, and dieticians just seem to fall on deaf ears. Well, you need not be a victim.

## GUARANTEED TO WORK— OR MONEY REFUNDED

Listen to that little voice inside you. Just this once, give in to your common sense and give this book a try. Watch these secrets automatically work for you in a way that really counts . . . *lower blood pressure*. (And cholesterol, etc.). Without risking a cent.

I know exactly what you may be thinking, right now. You're quite intrigued, but skeptical. Or think maybe if you're affected already by high blood pressure, it'll somehow vanish away by itself. *Never happens*.

Here is the help . . . in plain, step-by-step language . . . in a book which anyone can use to begin to normalize blood pressure. GUARANTEED.

## FREE BONUS with order

Order today. You'll also receive "Cleanse Your Own Arteries and Feel 25 Years Younger" as your Free Gift just for trying our "blood pressure" secrets book.

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Box 1052, Manchaca, TX 78652

American Surveys, Dept. 337-A,  
Box 1030, Manchaca, TX 78652.

O.K.—I'll take a risk-free look. Here's my \$12.95, plus \$2.00 handling & postage. Rush "The SECRETS to Control HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE". After following your program, if my blood pressure ever becomes a health problem again, I can return the book for a full refund. GUARANTEED.

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# FREEDOM PRESERVED



PHOTOS BY NATIONAL ARCHIVES. AP/WIDEWORLD. COLORIZATION BY PATRA DAVIS



1945

**B**Y EARLY January, Soviet armies had recovered all the land they had lost to Hitler, and then some. In mid-month, Warsaw fell. Within days, the Red Army would be 100 miles from Berlin. Sweeping inexorably eastward to the Rhine River came Eisenhower's mighty forces, on land and by air. The Wehrmacht hoped for a last stand at the Rhine. No enemy since Napoleon had crossed it.

By mid-March, however, the western bank of the upper Rhine was thick with Allied troops. To the south, Patton had staged his own blitzkrieg, covering 65 miles in 58 hours in a race to the Rhine.

By now, more than 50 of Germany's greatest cities largely lay in ruins, pounded by ceaseless Allied air attacks. In a single two-day raid by 1,600 sorties in February, more than 20,000 tons of bombs were dropped. The Luftwaffe was helpless.

On March 7 came a victory Eisenhower later would call "one of my happy moments of the war." At Remagen on the west bank of the Rhine, Sgt. Alexander A. Drabik of Holland, Ohio, led his platoon in a hail of gunfire across the Ludendorff Bridge. All the others in the key area had been blown up. Within a day, 8,000 American troops crossed the river. Soon, 75,000 U.S. engineers were at work on 62 other bridges all up and down the vital waterway. And by March 25, all seven Allied armies had entered Hitler's Reich to join airborne troops already in place.

Capturing industrial centers in the Rühr was of prime importance. They encompassed the Krupp steelworks of

**IWO JIMA**—The invasion of Iwo Jima brought the war in the Pacific closer to Japan. The image of Marines hoisting the flag at Mt. Suribachi on Feb. 23 attests to their courage. In that famous photograph were: Ira Hayes, Ariz.; Franklin Sousley, Ky.; Michael Strank, Pa.; John Bradley, Wis.; Rene Gagnon, N.H.; and Harlon Block, Texas.



**CHOW TIME**—GIs near La Roche, Belgium, take time out for a meal.



**HEARTLAND**—U.S. troops cut through the Siegfried Line into Germany.

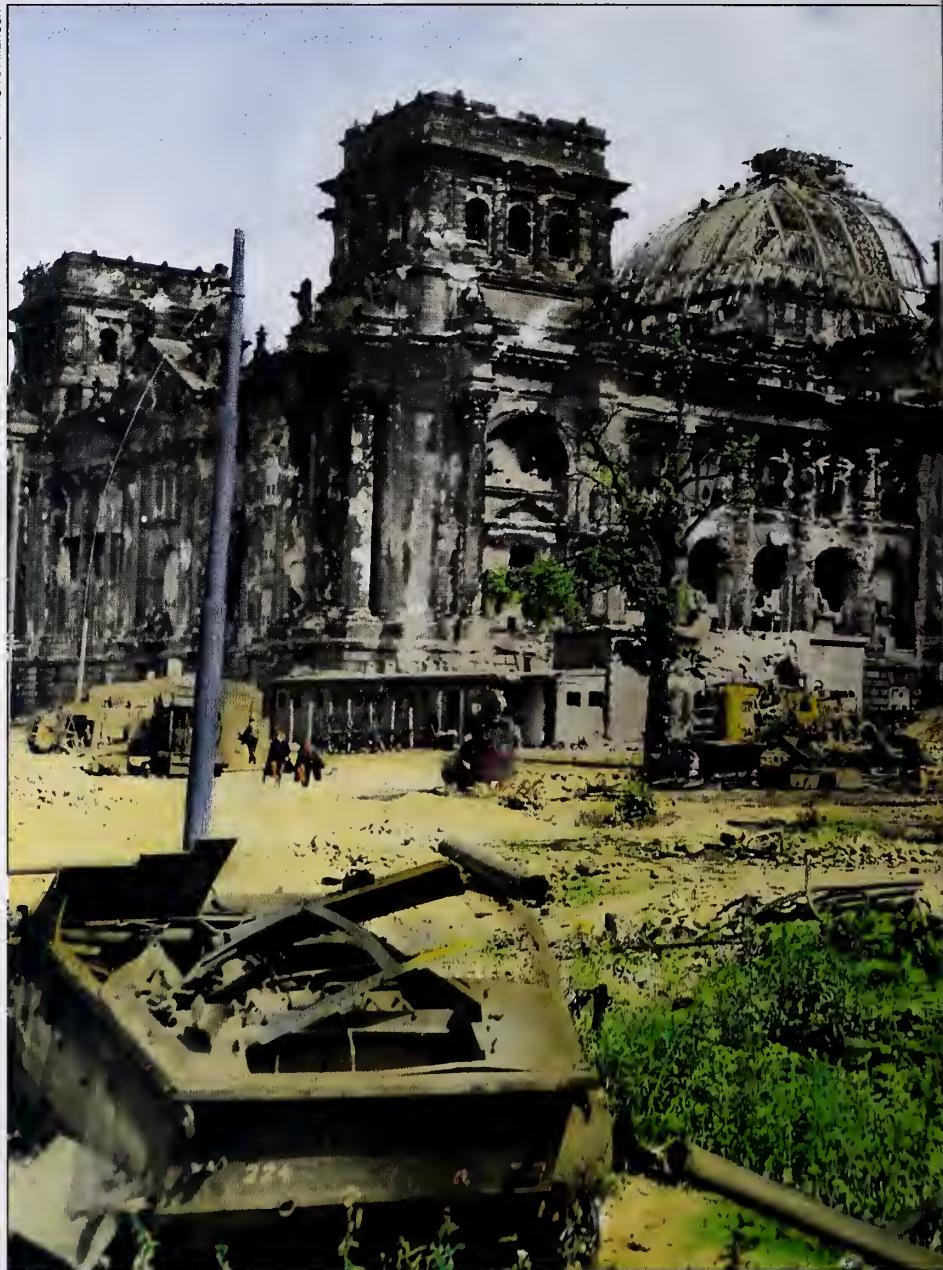


**LAND HO**—The battleship Pennsylvania leads the landing at Luzon.

PHOTOS BY NATIONAL ARCHIVES

1945

COLORIZATION BY MEHOSH



**FALL OF THE REICH**—Wrecked vehicles lie among the rubble near the shattered Reichstag.



**BIG THREE**—Churchill, FDR and Stalin meet at Yalta for final plans.



**THUNDER**—A 274mm railroad gun is captured by GIs at Rentwertshausen.



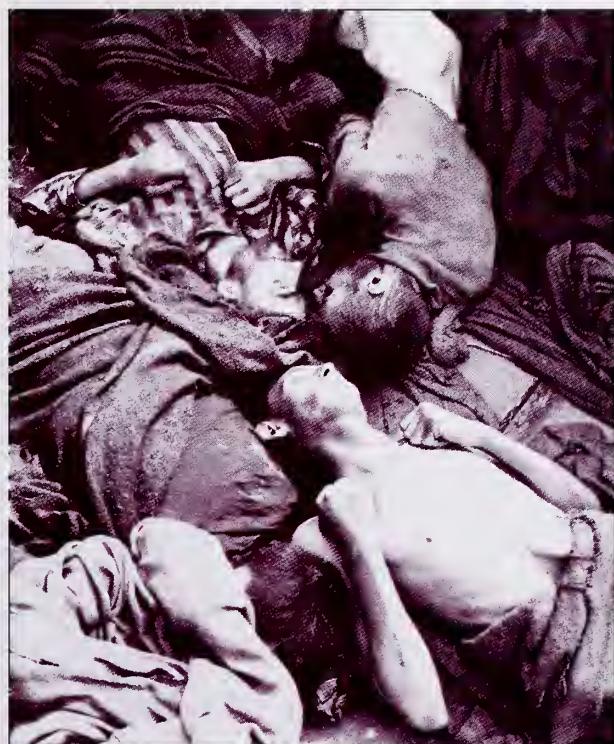
**FEDS AND REDS**—American and Soviet troops meet at the Elbe River.



Building in Berlin at the end of the war.



**V-E DAY**—Col. Gen. Alfred Jodl puts his name on the surrender document at Rheims, France, May 7, 1945.



**HOLOCAUST**—Atrocities committed against Jews and others at the hands of the Nazis shocked the world.



PHOTO BY NATIONAL ARCHIVES

**SHIP SHAPE**—The Santa Fe aids the bomb-damaged carrier Franklin.



**CLOSING IN**—A Marine on Okinawa draws a bead on a Japanese sniper.



**BEACHHEAD**—A formidable task force carves positions on Okinawa.

**1945**

were rested and ready for the final blow. On April 14, they attacked toward Bologna, and the British 8th took Venice. Nine days later, all remaining German forces in Italy surrendered.

Hitler refused to leave Berlin. From his elaborate bomb shelter under the Reich Chancellery, he issued crazed orders to non-existent forces. In a final fit of paranoia, the Führer heaped blame for the world's woes on the Jewish people, and on April 30 shot himself in the head. Hours later, Soviet troops captured all of Berlin. U.S. forces could have beaten the Russians to Berlin, but were ordered to the south—something critics still argue was a serious geopolitical mistake.

On May 7, at Allied headquarters in a schoolhouse in Reims, France, German envoys signed the unconditional surrender. The world rejoiced. Now began the hard work of peace in Europe: the reconstruction of a shattered continent along with the settling of new borders.

The final wartime meeting of the "Big Three" was at Potsdam, a Soviet-occupied suburb of Berlin, July 17 to Aug. 2. With Truman replacing Roosevelt at the table, the conference was interrupted by the British election in which Clement Attlee replaced Churchill as prime minister. Resuming, Potsdam con-

*Continued on page 116*



**THE END**—Gen. Douglas MacArthur affixes his signature on the document that brought World War II to an end.



"LITTLE BOY"—Hiroshima is leveled by an atomic bomb on Aug. 6, 1945.



SILENCE—Nagasaki's religious figures are surrounded by mass destruction.



V-J DAY—Japanese officials prepare to surrender on the Missouri.



/ar II to a close.



WITNESSES—Crew members and others were on hand for the historic event.

PHOTOS BY AP/WIDE WORLD

# A Different Kind Of Hell

By John W. Thorburn

RISONERS of war belong to a war within a war, an enclave that has no ending, even after the last shell has been fired. Theirs is a war overlapping the peace settling across a nation. The vague War Department message—"Missing In Action"—remains in troubled hearts. Dead, alive, a POW?

The vigil begins, stretching its shadow across calendar months, even years. Hopes rising and falling with every knock on the door, telephone ring, letter drop, a whispered "seen alive" rumor becoming a howl in the mind. The raw torment of not knowing. Letting fantasy be the prop of persuasion.

And why not? As far back as medieval times, soldiers of war counted as dead returned, and as in the works of fiction, found their wives married to another man. A drama enacted manifold times in real life and from which the well of hope has its source.

The POW, forgotten man that he is, might even prefer it that way. He resents having been captured, being forced to the sidelines, hopelessly awaiting his day to fight again. He silently cheers, writhing with joy, as American bombers roar over stalags, oslags, Japanese compounds, though the raids could very well cost his life, and sometimes did just that. American POWs labored on bridges, airports, factories and frequently died in these bombing traps, just as they did of hunger, beatings, and bayonet stabbings for the sport of it. Socked in on all sides by a draconian regimentation, the Nazi Gestapo, the Jap Kempeitai.

John W. Thorburn was a *Stars and Stripes* combat reporter in the Pacific and member of the 27th Infantry Division.



FREEDOM—Allied prisoners of war at Aomori camp near Yokohama cheer rescuers from the U.S. Navy.

POWs marched and marched some more, such as the infamous Bataan Death March, from transient staging areas to permanent macabre abodes the devil could gloat about. Nothing about these camps lent the palest imitation to the movie and television hyped-up comedy sitcom versions. One day merges into another: monotony, boredom, intense heat, frigid cold and always empty stomachs.

**F**EW POWS actually tried to escape, and even fewer who tried survived. Little wonder some POWs preferred to take their risk with work crews that brought them an extra crust of black bread, or a few grains of rice. Say it this way, the way it was: starved to skeletons, beaten to a hideous pulp, interrogated, tortured to a mind-blowing wreck.

Some POWs who did make it home did not always find longing hearts and

arms awaiting them. Many had been abandoned by wives and sweethearts.

Many POWs were the recipients of what has become known as WW II "Dear John" letters. Fighting men carried these and a variety of other letters into the fray, served up during mail call aboard troop ships and prison camps.

The best known exploiter of the broken heart letters was American-born Tokyo Rose—and the sharpest propaganda tool in her broadcast repertoire was the tale of a misspent love. In the ETO another blockhead, "Lord Haw-Haw," destroyed morale as best he could with similar rot, plus dispensing fake Red Cross letters.

\* \* \*

The 11th Airborne stood alerted on Okinawa to parachute into Japan following the surrender. Gen. MacArthur canceled the jump, and the 11th Airborne, the first American troops to enter Japan, landed at Yokohama airfield. American POWs were being given back their freedom, and aside from atrocities, I sought some insight about spirit and morale, especially as armadas of B-29s and P-51s pounded Jap targets day in and day out, and the enemy collapse became evident.

"The health of the sickest of prisoners improved," a captured platoon sergeant related, "and the cloud of despair began to lift. Each day the sky filled with bombers gave us new hope and courage. Under our breath we were saying, 'C'mon Uncle, give 'em hell.' But there was one time when the Jap anti-aircraft caught a B-29, and it went down in an orange ball of fire. Some of us had to choke back the tears."

Imagine being a starving POW and a bomb hitting a nearby, gigantic Yokohama fish market. "It was the biggest flying fish fry platter. Wow, was it something," an awed infantryman said. "Fish rained down scrambled, chowdered, fried, broiled. First good meal since I don't remember when."

The best was yet to come. □

# The Famous Records Of World War II

No other music in history has ever given so much pleasure and touched our hearts as deeply as the never-equalled great songs of the war years. Now you can enjoy again the most famous stars and songs of this legendary era in a memory-stirring treasury never before available in this publication.

By special arrangement with America's major record companies, we offer 45 of the most famous records of World War II in one extraordinary collection. Every recording comes from an original master performed by an original artist just as you remember it almost 50 years ago! And here they are:

Sleepy Lagoon Harry James	Sunrise Serenade Glenn Miller w/Tex Beneke	It Might As Well Be Spring Paul Weston w/Margaret Whiting	You Always Hurt The One You Love Sammy Kaye vocal: Billy Williams	Dearly Beloved Glenn Miller vocal: Skip Nelson
Moonlight Becomes You Glenn Miller	One Dozen Roses Harry James	The Very Thought Of You Vaughn Monroe	A Nightingale Sang In Berkley Square Glenn Miller vocal: Ray Eberle	I Left My Heart At The Stage Door Canteen Sammy Kaye vocal: Don Cornell
Long Ago (And Far Away) Jo Stafford	Ole Buttermilk Sky Kay Kyser	Star Dust Tommy Dorsey w/Frank Sinatra & The Pied Pipers	When The Lights Go On Again All Over The World Vaughn Monroe	Let's Take The Long Way Home Cab Calloway
On The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Johnny Mercer	To Each His Own Freddy Martin	I Can't Begin To Tell You Sammy Kaye	Dancing In The Dark Artie Shaw	I'll Walk Alone Dinah Shore
I'll Buy That Dream Dick Haymes w/Helen Forrest	Temptation Perry Como	Elmer's Tune Glenn Miller w/Ray Eberle & The Modernaires	It's Been A Long, Long Time Charlie Spivak vocal: Irene Daye	Lili Marlene Marlene Dietrich
I'm Making Believe Ink Spots w/Ella Fitzgerald	Maria Elena Jimmy Dorsey vocal: Bob Eberly	I'll Get By (As Long As I Have You) Harry James vocal: Dick Haymes	I'll Never Smile Again Tommy Dorsey w/Frank Sinatra & The Pied Pipers	The Hut-Sut Song (A Swedish Serenade) Freddy Martin vocal: Eddie Stone
My Devotion Vaughn Monroe	(I'll Be With You) In Apple Blossom Time Andrews Sisters	You Belong To My Heart Charlie Spivak	Have I Stayed Away Too Long Perry Como	Skylark Harry James w/Helen Forrest
I'll Be Seeing You Tommy Dorsey w/Frank Sinatra	Auf Wiedersehen Sweetheart Vera Lynn	(There'll Be Bluebirds Over) The White Cliffs Of Dover Vera Lynn		Warsaw Concerto Freddy Martin
Take The "A" Train Duke Ellington	White Christmas Gordon Jenkins	Always Gordon Jenkins		Intermezzo Wayne King
Sentimental Journey Hal McIntyre	G.I. Jive Johnny Mercer			

## A Goldmine Of Musical Memories Available For The First Time In This Publication

The war years inspired many of the greatest records ever made. These records touched our deepest feelings in a way no records ever have or ever will. Here in one extraordinary collection of 45 famous World War II hits, you'll find music that helped to keep our spirits high and mend many broken hearts.

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All 45 famous records from World War II come to you on your choice of 3 long-playing records or 3 cassettes. The price? Only \$19.98 and every famous original hit is electronically rechanneled for your stereo player. This treasury is also available on 2 beautiful sounding compact discs for only \$24.98 and we unconditionally guarantee you will enjoy every one of these 45 famous hits or the collection won't cost you a penny. Be sure to mail this no-risk coupon today.

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# THE 'GREEN' MACHINE

By Steve Salerno

**D**ESPITE all that has been said and written about savings bonds through the years, they remain in some ways the Rodney Dangerfields of investment options: "They get no respect," joked U.S. Treasurer Catalina Villalpando, during a whirlwind tour this year honoring the 50th anniversary of the bond program.

Bemoaning the fact that bonds always have been overshadowed by more glamorous investments, Villalpando attempted to increase awareness of bonds' historic role in U.S. finances—particularly when it comes to raising cash for military emergencies such as the Gulf War.

The link between America's wartime cash requirements and private investment in government dates back to 1776, when colonists volunteered more than \$27 million to help finance the American Revolution. However, the impetus for a formal small-investor program began to build in earnest during the Depression. Treasurer Henry Morgenthau Jr. calculated that an infusion of \$4.8 billion was needed to cope with unemployment alone. Morgenthau reasoned that breaking the public debt into millions of tiny chunks would make repayment relatively painless.

Morgenthau and his supporters had philosophical goals as well. Savings bonds were seen as an extension of the democratic ideal, allowing "the little guy" to participate in government operations.

Series A Bonds were first issued on

*More than 85 million Americans bought Series E War Bonds, arming the country with needed financial ammunition.*



NATIONAL ARCHIVES

March 1, 1935, soon to be joined by Series B, C and D, known collectively as "Baby Bonds." Series A Bonds were available in denominations from \$25 to \$1,000; all bonds cost 75 percent of their face value. The interest rate was 2.9 percent—not bad for those days.

As with any new undertaking, there were the inevitable bugs. The only sales outlets, apart from the treasury itself,

were post offices, where the climate was not conducive to bond sales. And the ad campaign was confined largely to the type of financial publications that Morgenthau's "little guys" seldom read.

In 1936, the newly formed Division of Savings Bonds created a direct-mail program that proved fairly efficient. By 1940, responsibility for the bond program had been assumed by another new agency, the Fiscal Service. A Defense

Savings Staff, with state governors acting as honorary chairmen, inherited the job of further promoting bond sales.

But by far the most significant factor in the bond program's success was the darkening shadow of events in Europe. By early 1941, America's intensifying preparations for battle had greatly enlarged the public debt. Morgenthau saw a pressing need to encourage Americans to place their discretionary income at the government's disposal. The Roosevelt administration viewed the bond program as a unifying factor in a time of uncertainty about the nation's role in the widening conflict.

On the night of April 30, 1941, FDR went on the radio to announce the issuance of the bond destined to become the most widely held security in U.S. history: the Series E "Defense Bond." As a symbolic gesture, FDR personally bought the first E Bond from Morgenthau the next morning. Along with the new bond came "Defense Stamps," which allowed citizens with as little as a dime to participate in Roosevelt's "one great partnership."

In promoting its new bond issue, the treasury aggressively worked the mailing lists it had compiled while promoting Baby Bonds. Meanwhile, banks agreed to replace post offices as issuing agents. The banking industry's

Steve Salerno is a frequent contributor to *The American Legion Magazine*.



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to push the limits of air transport.

It's not the performance of engines that makes the C-17 such a powerful airlifter. It's the performance of people.

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It's this inner strength of our people, however, that

makes our C-17 such an advanced airlifter. Our F-15 Eagle more capable than any other fighter. And our Delta rocket the most reliable satellite launch system in the world.

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Alexander's Rag Time Band • When The Saints Go Marching In • Bye Bye Blues • Baby Face • All Of Me • Bill Bailey Won't You Please Come Home • Five Foot Two • Pennies From Heaven • Midnight In Moscow • Hello Dolly • Muskrat Ramble • 12th Street Rag • Margie • Put Your Arms Around Me Honey • Toot, Toot, Tootsie • Whispering • Yes Sir That's My Baby • I'm Looking Over A Four Leaf Clover • Ja Da • Up A Lazy River • Way Down Yonder In New Orleans • St. Louis Blues • Sweet Georgia Brown • Dinah • Darktown Strutters Ball • Sheik Of Araby • Bourbon Street Parade • South Rampart Street Parade • That's A Plenty • Ace In The Hole • **AND 30 MORE!**

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Or charge to:  Visa  MasterCard

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implicit endorsement enhanced the bonds' credibility with consumers.

Also introduced at this time was the system that became the heart and soul of the savings bond program: The Payroll Savings Plan. "Buy where you work" became a rallying cry as employees nationwide signed up.

Pearl Harbor galvanized the public's growing affection for bonds. Overnight, Defense Bonds became War Bonds, and national outrage in the wake of the attack was expressed as a near-compulsive need to help with the sales effort. The advertising industry donated its creativity and \$250 million in free ad space. Networks scheduled "Radio Bond Days" during which all programming was bond-related and celebrities urged listeners to "buy more bonds!" Newspaper carriers were enlisted as unofficial bond salespeople. Movie theaters sold War Stamps, and department stores gave them out as change. In July 1942, the covers of more than 500 American magazines carried the same art: the flag and a War Bond, the only time in history the publishing industry has united in such a cause. Schools solicited parents to buy bonds through the "buy a jeep" program; in 1943 alone, the program funded the purchase of 100,000 jeeps.

Even songwriters got into the act: Irving Berlin wrote "Any Bonds Today," donating the copyright to the government. To this day, said Villalpando, the song is prominently featured in a promotional video about bonds.

In response to this avalanche of support, sales jumped so suddenly that issuing agents ran out of bond stock. Payroll savings enrollments soared as well, reaching 25 million by 1945. From May 1941 through December 1945, American citizens bought nearly \$157 billion worth of war bonds—60 percent of that in E Bonds alone. At war's end, there were more than 85 million E Bond holders.

Recognition of the need for postwar fiscal stability resulted in the 1946 formation of the U.S. Savings Bond Division. The coalition of advertisers who had pitched in during the war became The Advertising Council Inc., and promptly took the Bond Division as its first client. The council carefully targeted its promotions to dates of patriotic significance: D-Day, July 4, Armistice Day.

Korea spurred resurrection of Defense Bonds, and America once again rose to the challenge. Actress

B  
UYING  
SAVINGS BONDS  
BECAME A WAY  
FOR EVERY  
CITIZEN TO  
SUPPORT THE  
WAR EFFORT.

Mary Pickford, one of the earliest celebrity supporters of the program, went on a national tour on behalf of the bonds. The cast of *Father Knows Best* filmed an emotional TV special, *24 Hours in Tyrantland*. Walt Disney and cartoonist Al Capp combined to design special certificates aimed at heightening the bonds' appeal as gifts for children. Indeed, the practice of giving bonds to children remains extremely popular today.

During the next few decades, the bond program was keyed to current events. The early 1960s saw the focus of advertising shift to the space race; there were testimonials from NASA officials and Project Mercury astronauts. Later on, the knowledge that Vietnam soldiers were themselves buying bonds produced one of the payroll plan's most poignant slogans: "Buy Bonds Where You Work. They Do." The early 1970s was noteworthy for the appearance of the memorable catch phrase, "Take Stock in America."

By the late 1970s, however, enthusiasm for bonds had cooled. The economy was stumbling, and many Americans lacked funds to invest in long-term savings. "It was the absolute worst period for us," recalled Russell Kimmerly, Savings Bond Division area manager in Indianapolis. "The very existence of the program was endangered."

In early 1980, E bonds, owned by tens of millions of American families and the world's most widely held security, were phased out and replaced by Series EE. The oldest E bonds, which

*Please turn to page 108*

# Patchwork Leather Designer Bags \$10



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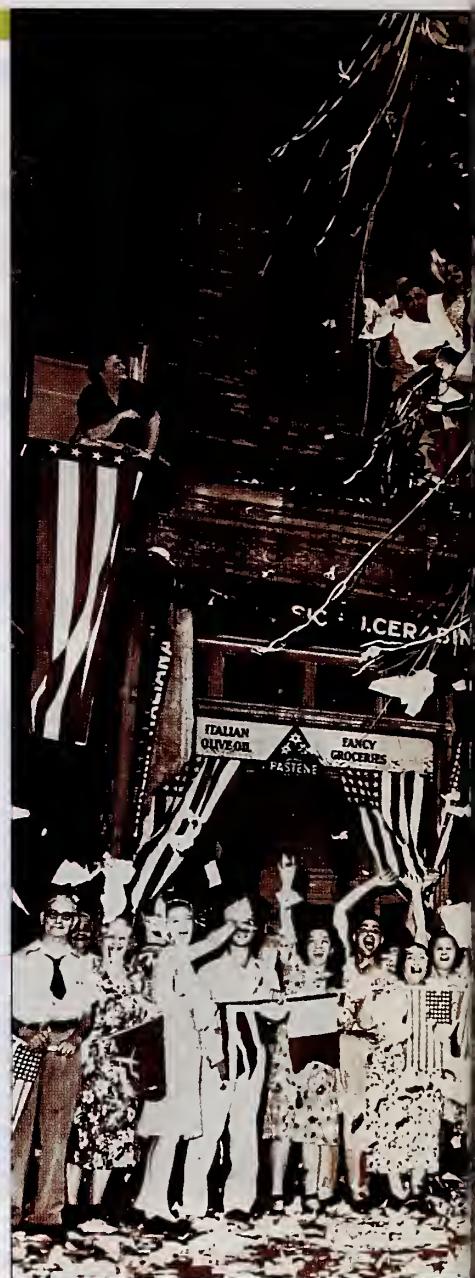
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# COMING HOME

**W**AS everywhere between 1941-45. It was on posters, in slogans, and there were "V-gardens" and "V-mail." It was a hand gesture popularized by Winston Churchill. But victory for America and its Allies would have to come on the installment plan.

On the night of May 7, 1945, the German high command agreed to an unconditional surrender, less than a week after Adolf Hitler and his mistress, Eva Braun, committed suicide in the dictator's private bunker. V-E Day, Victory in Europe Day, was celebrated May 8.

The brutality of Hitler's "1,000-year

Reich" was revealed. Millions of Eastern Europeans—among them as many as 6 million Jews—were butchered, and murdered. Empty eyes and skeleton bodies in Nazi concentration camps greeted unbelieving liberators. Names such as Auschwitz, Bergen Belsen, Treblinka and Buchenwald were capitals of all that is evil. It was indeed a holocaust of inhumanity.

Japan struggled on alone, but its defeat was inevitable. After two atomic weapons leveled the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the rising sun set on the empire of Japan. On Aug. 15, V-J Day brought the brutal conflict to a close.

From Times Square in New York City to Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco, Americans turned out by the

millions to celebrate victories in both theaters. Strangers embraced. Many danced in the streets. Most said prayers of thanksgiving. Gold Star Mothers touched the fabric that symbolized their sacrifice during the war.

For GIs overseas, their long-lived dreams of returning to their loved ones now was within reach. Soldiers, sailors, Marines, airmen, Coast Guardsmen and Merchant Marines shook hands and congratulated one another. Commanders sighed with relief knowing they would not have to send any more of America's best and bravest into the hell of combat.

More than 16 million Americans had served in uniform when World War II officially ended on Dec. 31, 1946. The



DEPT OF DEFENSE



homecomings. They walked tall and proud with the units they served with; some were pushed in wheelchairs. For many, coming home would mean new battles, as servicemen began the arduous process of adjusting to civilian life and putting the war and all of its horrors behind them.

Coming home for GIs meant more than trading in a uniform for "civvies" and resuming the lives they left behind. Veterans and their families looked to the future. They yearned for a peace that had evaded them since that Sunday morning of infamy. They dreamed of a world of freedom—and freedom from fear and want.

Many have tried to define what World War II meant to America, but perhaps it was best characterized by A.J.P. Taylor in *The Second World War*: "Future generations may discuss the Second World War as 'just another war.' Those who experienced it know that it was a war justified in its aims and successful in accomplishing them. Despite all the killing and destruction that accompanied it, the Second World War was a good war." *The Editors* □

**VICTORY** — American soldiers and English women celebrate Japan's surrender in London streets (far left). New York City residents cheer during V-J Day festivities (center). The USS West Point brings U.S. soldiers home (above). Anybody kissed everyone in Times Square on Aug. 14, 1945 (below).



NATIONAL ARCHIVES

## A jubilant America welcomed troops home with kisses, confetti and ticker-tape parades.

price they paid was staggering and our Allies, most of whom had been at war with the Axis powers since the late 1930s, suffered incredible losses and destruction, too.

Those who returned were welcomed with ticker tape parades and emotional

# A GRATEFUL NATION

**F**EW documents in the history of the world have eloquently stated individual rights as well as the U.S. Bill of Rights. However, no document in the history of the world had ensured the rights of a nation's veterans until the Legion-written and supported GI Bill of Rights became law.

As the only veterans' organization that supported its passage in 1944, The American Legion shepherded the bill from inception to presidential signature by Franklin Roosevelt. In December 1943, PNC Harry Colmery wrote the original draft of the GI Bill of Rights on unlined Mayflower Hotel stationery in Washington, D.C. In cramped but straight and steady handwriting, Colmery outlined the rehabilitative, medical and vocational needs of veterans returning from World War II.

As the nation's and veterans' hope for post-war posterity, the GI Bill sought to make the transition from the military to civilian life as easy as possible. This unique legislation eventually became the template for other veterans' benefits legislation.

Colmery's draft of the GI Bill came as a result of his selection by National Commander Warren Atherton to head a committee charged with determining the long-range needs of veterans returning from World War II. Because the Legion had helped WWI veterans secure some hard-won benefits and medical treatment, Legion officials knew they were in for a tough battle. The perception of veterans' benefits being a handout had to be changed. Atherton's committee and the Legion's nationwide campaign had to prove that veterans' benefits were a good deal for the country and for veterans.

Despite opposition from other veterans' organizations, the Legion persisted and began documenting the need for such legislation. Legion leaders soon gathered the information needed



**GI BILL**—President Roosevelt signs the Legion-written and supported GI Bill of Rights on June 22, 1944.

by mobilizing the Legion's network of service officers. During congressional testimony in support of the GI Bill of Rights, Atherton presented Congress with 1,536 cases of delays in care or lack of treatment for WWII veterans.

**I**N ADDITION to the Legion documentation, several hundred newspapers joined the campaign by publishing articles about the condition of returning WWII veterans and writing editorials that urged better care for veterans.

While the legislation was debated in Congress, Legion officials led a letter-writing campaign to support the GI Bill of Rights, officially named the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944. Soon, the campaign was so widespread, one congressman referred to it as "an all-over-the-country lobby."

As a final push for the bill, Atherton targeted March 15, 1944, as national

"sign-up" day, where the Legion urged citizens to sign petitions asking for passage of the bill. On March 24, 1944, the bill unanimously passed the Senate, and on May 18, the House passed the bill 387 to 0. However, the GI Bill of Rights had one more hurdle.

On May 21, a House-Senate conference committee met to iron out their differences on the bill. If a majority of the seven-member committee did not agree on the final wording, the bill would die. With Rep. John Gibson's proxy vote rejected, the committee was deadlocked three to three about the job-placement provisions in the bill. The Legion and Gibson supported the job-placement provisions, but the committee chairman, who had rejected Gibson's proxy vote, was against the provisions.

Gibson was on his way home to Georgia when his proxy vote was rejected on June 8, and the final meeting of the committee was slated for June 10, 10 a.m. If Gibson did not appear in person to cast his vote, the GI Bill of Rights would fail. However, Legion officials led a massive search for Gibson to get him back to Washington, D.C., before the vote.

After making statewide telephone calls to those who knew Gibson, Legion officials requested that Georgia radio stations broadcast requests for Gibson to call. When Gibson eventually returned home, he was driven through a thunderstorm at 90 mph to Jacksonville, Fla., for a flight to Washington. Gibson arrived at the committee meeting promptly at 10 a.m. to cast the deciding ballot in favor of the bill.

On June 22, 1944, President Roosevelt signed the legislation, ending the Legion's short, but potent, campaign to have the history-making veterans' bill passed. Through Legion efforts, the GI Bill of Rights became a statement of simple dignity for those who served the U.S. military in World War II, and has served as the model for continuing our nation's commitment to those who "have borne the battle." □

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# 1941

Continued from page 39

cried, jubilantly. "Tora! Tora! Tora!" It was the code word confirming the enemy had been caught by surprise.

Moments before, Pearl had been a scene of unsuspecting serenity. The fleet was on "Condition 3," minimum alert. One-third of the sailors were on weekend shore leave. Aboard ship, anti-aircraft batteries were only partially manned; reserve ammunition was padlocked. No air patrols were flying that morning. At Hickam Field, Wheeler and four smaller bases, planes were parked in tight formation to discourage would-be saboteurs. Most were unarmed.

Moored along Ford Island's "battleship row" like so many sitting ducks were seven U.S. dreadnaughts. Five cruisers, 26 destroyers and 54 auxiliary vessels were anchored nearby. (Fortunately, the fleet's three carriers and seven other cruisers were away at the time.) Within minutes, the peaceful harbor was a hellfire of death and destruction as the Japanese raiders swooped on their prey. The unprepared defenders fought back bravely with every available weapon, but it was too little too late.

The battleship *Oklahoma*, its massive hull split wide by five successive torpedo hits, erupted in fiery explosions and sank. The *California* was ripped open when a bomb detonated in its magazine. The *West Virginia* took six torpedoes and capsized. The *Tennessee*, moored inboard of the *West Virginia*, caught fire from the *Arizona*'s flaming debris. A 16-inch shell had landed on the No. 2 turret of the *Arizona*, blowing up the forward magazine. The doomed vessel keeled over and half sank in the harbor's shallows, entombing more than 1,000 officers and men in what today is a somber national memorial.

*Nevada*, the only battleship to get under way, nearly was sunk in mid-channel, where it might have blocked the harbor. The crippled ship finally ran aground at Hospital Point. Only the *Pennsylvania*, lying at drydock, escaped major damage by maintaining a furious hail of anti-aircraft fire.

The raid lasted less than two hours. U.S. losses were staggering: 2,403 dead and 1,178 wounded. Eighteen naval vessels, including eight battleships, were either sunk, capsized or crippled.

Please turn page



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# 1941

*Continued from page 92*

Nearly 300 military aircraft were destroyed or disabled. By contrast, Japan lost 29 planes, one submarine and five mini-subs. Historians believe that had Tokyo realized the extent of devastation at Pearl Harbor, it might have ordered an invasion, or at least a follow-up air strike to complete the destruction of Pearl's vital ship-repair installations.

As it happened, Tojo's Japan won a superficial victory. It had awakened a sleeping giant.

The next day, Congress formally declared war on Japan with but one dissenter—Rep. Jeannette Rankin of Montana, a diehard isolationist. The rallying cry for a unified America was, "Remember Pearl Harbor!" Nonetheless, some critics contended Roosevelt had "invited" the Japanese attack in order to push America into World War II. Government investigators attributed Pearl Harbor's unpreparedness to a sequence of bizarre blunders and miscalculations by civilian authorities and the military alike. Pearl's senior commanders, Rear Adm. Husband E. Kimmel and Maj. Gen. Walter C. Short, were reprimanded by a congressional inquiry which found the United States had "failed to be alert"—a classic understatement. Kimmel and Short, who are now deceased, insisted they were scapegoats.

But the time for recriminations was past. On Dec. 11, Germany and Italy joined their Axis partner, Japan, in declaring war on the United States. Congress then declared war on Germany and Japan, and extended the military draft for the duration, plus six months.

Despite earlier opposition by dogged isolationists, America's entry into the war on the side of the Allies had seemed only a matter of time. On March 11, 1941, while the United States was still technically neutral, Congress passed the controversial Lend-Lease Act by which America as the "Arsenal of Democracy" would ship \$50 billion in arms to Britain, and later to the Soviets. On Aug. 14, 1941, Roosevelt and Britain's Winston Churchill met aboard a warship to frame the Atlantic Charter, setting forth their common aims. In December, they met again in Washington as wartime allies, agreeing on a strategy to defeat Germany first while

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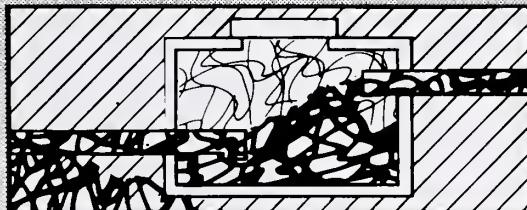
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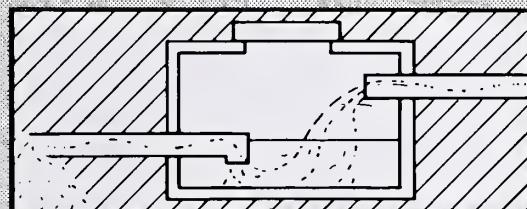
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# 1941

Continued from page 94

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containing Japanese aggression. Most Americans, however, felt strongly that Japan's defeat should take priority.

Such feelings seemed premature. As 1941 drew to a close, the Axis powers held the upper hand. In the wake of Hitler's conquest of Europe, Norway and the Balkans, only the British fought on in the West. And Nazi armies were at the gates of Moscow and Leningrad. On the other side of the world, Tojo's warriors continued their relentless drive to enlarge Tokyo's "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere." Pearl Harbor was still smoldering as new waves of Japanese bombers demolished Clark Field near Manila. Two days later, battle-hardened Japanese shock troops invaded the Philippines.

Elsewhere in the Pacific, the American island of Guam capitulated and after several days of valiant resistance by 500 U.S. Marines, on Dec. 23, the rising sun replaced the Stars and Stripes on Wake Island. British Hong Kong fell to the Japanese on Christmas Day.

In the Philippines, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's bedraggled American and Filipino forces were in retreat with no hope of reinforcement. America was at war, but not yet ready to wage war. □

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Arthur, accompanied by his family, Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Richard K. Sutherland, and 17 others, slipped out of Bataan by torpedo boat on March 11, vowing "I shall return." On April 9, "the battling bastards of Bataan," as the ragged, half-starved survivors called themselves, surrendered. A handful of others, led by Maj. Gen. Jonathan Wainwright, who had assumed command after MacArthur, held out for another 27 days on nearby Corregidor, a rocky fortress in Manila harbor, before giving up. For America, it was the darkest day of the war, made even darker by the horror that followed.

The victorious Japanese at bayonet point forced some 40,000 captured Americans and Filipinos on a torturous 70-mile jungle trek known as the "Bataan Death March." More than half of the Allied POWs died from starvation or abuse. Thousands of others perished later in captivity.

**B**UT there would be retribution. On April 18, nine days after Bataan fell, 16 American B-25 bombers, launched in secrecy from the carrier *Hornet*, staged a daring raid on Tokyo. Led by the intrepid Lt. Col. James Doolittle, the improvised attack did little damage, but it had an enormous psychological impact. The American people got a badly needed boost in morale. The Japanese, who had believed their island nation was untouchable, were shocked; the commander of Tokyo's air defenses committed suicide. Of Doolittle's 80 airmen, 71 survived, most landing in China. Asked by White House reporters where the Americans had come from, Roosevelt replied with a grin, "Shangri-La."

The Japanese were in for more surprises.

In early May, planes from the carriers *Yorktown* and *Lexington* outdueled a Japanese carrier force off the Solomon Islands in the Battle of the Coral Sea. The enemy retreated after losing one carrier, four cruisers and two destroyers. The U.S. carrier *Lexington* was lost, but not before the crew of the slowly sinking ship devoured all the ice cream on board while awaiting rescue. More importantly, Coral Sea, Japan's first setback in the Pacific, foreclosed a planned enemy invasion of Port

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And if you don’t have a Will your heirs face even more trouble. Because then the State decides who shares your estate.

A Living Trust is the legal way to pass your estate on to your heirs without going through the costly, frustrating probate system.

It’s been praised by financial planners and reported in publications such as the Wall Street Journal, Readers Digest, Money, Business Week and others because:

- With a Living Trust the estate goes immediately to your heir without going through the courts.
- Unlike a Will there’s no need for an attorney and legal fees that bleed your estate.
- A Living Trust is revocable. You

can change your mind at any time about who gets your assets.

- It’s a secret. No public record for anyone to see or documents to contest as with a Will.
  - In most cases you can name yourself as trustee, and your spouse or someone else as co-trustee. And change trustees and bequests at any time.
  - You can even provide for someone to manage your affairs should you ever become incapacitated.
- Never forget that probating a Will is costly.* Very costly. A study by AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) found that legal fees for probate often amount to 5% or more.

Wouldn’t you rather have your heirs get those thousands? They can with a revocable Living Trust.

The Wall Street Journal reports that though the legal cost of setting up a trust is more expensive than a will—but it saves money in the long run. And that isn’t all.

You can save even more because we have shown hundreds of thousands of people just like you how to do it with the exclusive, legal DSA Living Trust Kit.

Developed after much research with a team of legal scholars and practicing attorneys, the DSA Kit explains in easy-to-understand language how to set up your own Living Trust.

Instructions and guidelines are written in simple English. Illustrated step-by-step forms show you how to custom-tailor a legal trust to meet your special bequests and needs.

- Titles to your real estate, automobiles, boats, stocks, etc. are all safeguarded in your Trust. Though DSA’s exclusive Living

Trust Kit will save you a small fortune -- and save your loved ones thousands of dollars later on -- we have kept the price especially low to enable everyone to benefit from it. Less than the cost of a good dinner out. We are so certain that you will find it invaluable that we insist you examine it on a *90-Day No-Risk Guarantee*.

It’s easy to get your Living Trust Kit. All you have to do is print your name and address and the words, “Living Trust” on a plain piece of paper. Send it along with your check or money order in the amount of \$19.95 plus \$2 handling or charge to your VISA/MasterCard by including account number and expiration date to: DSA Financial Publishing Corp., 708 - 12th Street N.W., Dept. W1526, Canton, Ohio 44703. For even faster service, VISA/MasterCard or C.O.D., call toll free 1-800-321-0888, Ext. W1526.

Send for your Living Trust Kit within the next 15 days and you’ll also get a Free Bonus Report on estate planning. The supplies of this very unique report are limited so you must act now.

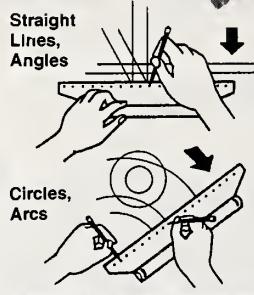
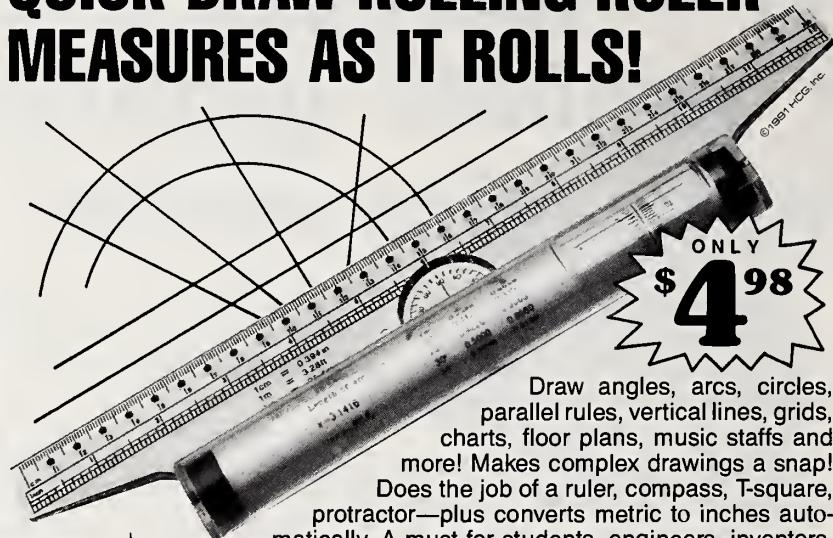
Examine and use the Kit in the privacy of your home for 90 risk-free days. Show it to your lawyer. If you are not 100% convinced it’s everything you expected — don’t keep it. Simply tear off the cover and send half of it back. You will receive a full refund. Fair enough?

A Living Trust is too important to put off another day. Order by phone or mail now!

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\* Notarized statement of John Vincent is on file with DSA for inspection. Only his name has been changed in this report to protect the family's privacy.

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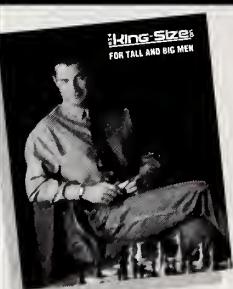
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**1942**

Continued from page 98

Moresby in New Guinea, within easy bomber range of the Australian coast.

One month later, far to the north, the mightiest naval force yet assembled by Japan—162 warships, including four giant carriers and hundreds of planes and thousands of troops—bore down on Midway Island, 1,100 miles west-northwest of Hawaii. Isoroku Yamamoto, commander in chief of the Japanese navy, ordered a diversionary attack on Alaska's Aleutian Islands to lure away U.S. forces. The main Japanese force would then seize Midway and destroy the remnants of U.S. sea power. What Yamamoto and his admirals did not know was that U.S. intelligence had broken the Japanese code, and American warships and planes were ready and waiting. Though outnumbered by more than 2 to 1, the U.S. fleet, under the command of Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, in four days of brilliant maneuvering, handed the Japanese their worst naval defeat in 350 years. In one day alone, June 4, U.S. planes sank all four Japanese carriers and a heavy cruiser while shooting down 330 enemy aircraft. On the U.S. side, the carrier *Yorktown* was lost, but the *Enterprise* and *Hornet* survived to fight again.

The Battle of Midway did more than avenge Pearl Harbor. It halted Japan's advance at sea and marked a turning point in the Pacific war. Deciding it was time for an all-out offensive, Adm. Ernest J. King, the Chief of Naval Operations, ordered an amphibious landing on Guadalcanal, a 90-mile long tropical island in the Solomons where the Japanese had been seen building an airbase. From Guadalcanal, enemy bombers could have struck at vital supply lines to Australia, threatening MacArthur's efforts to equip his new Southwest Pacific Area command.

On Aug. 7, just eight months after Pearl Harbor, the 1st Marine Division and elements of the 2nd stormed ashore on Guadalcanal and four satellite islands after a pre-dawn bombardment from an 89-ship task force. Most of the 19,000 Marines were recruits fresh from boot camp. But they fought like battle-hardened veterans.

During the next six months, Guadalcanal and the sky and waters all around it experienced some of the bitterest

*Please turn page*

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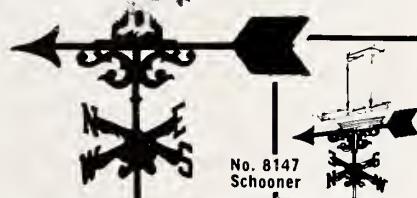
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# 1942

Continued from page 100

fighting of World War II. In one night's engagement—the Battle of Bloody Ridge—nearly 1,000 of the enemy were killed in a *banzai* charge that cost fewer than 100 U.S. lives. So many warships were lost on both sides that Guadalcanal's shipping channel was dubbed "Iron Bottom Bay." From the captured Japanese airbase, now Henderson Field, the Marines' self-styled "Bastard Air Force" shot down scores of enemy planes.

After a climactic three-day naval battle off Guadalcanal in November, Guadalcanal's commander, Marine Gen. Alexander Vandegrift, messaged Adm. William (Bull) Halsey Jr., commander of U.S. South Pacific Forces, "The enemy has suffered a crushing defeat," he said.

In December, the Army's Americal and 15th Infantry Divisions began relieving the battle-worn Marines. Within another month and a half, the last of the Japanese were gone. At least 50,000 had been killed trying to retake what they now called "Death Island." U.S. losses totaled more than 11,000 dead or wounded, including 1,592 Marines killed in action. But the United States was on course to Tokyo.

As massive U.S. war supplies crossed the Atlantic in heavily guarded convoys, the Allies began to turn the tide on other fronts as well. In England, the U.S. 8th Air Force teamed with the RAF, launching non-stop bombing raids on Germany.

In October on the Russian front, the Axis drive into the Caucasus stalled, and Stalingrad was becoming Hitler's first major disaster. On Nov. 19, reinforced Soviet armies launched a counteroffensive that encircled and doomed the entire German 6th Army.

In North Africa, Gen. Bernard Montgomery's reinforced British Army of the Nile halted Rommel's drive on Egypt and at the Second Battle of El Alamein sent the Afrika Korps reeling back into Libya. On Nov. 8, a combined U.S.-British force of more than 200,000 men under the command of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower landed in Morocco and Algeria to begin "Operation Torch," the liberation of North Africa. "This is not the end," declared Winston Churchill. "It is not the beginning of the end. It is perhaps the end of the beginning."



*Desert Storm proved it.*

# Old Glory means as much now as she did in 1941!

When our troops marched off to battle during WWII, they knew exactly what their job was...  
*...keep the beloved red, white and blue flying as high and free as she had since 1776.*

Early this year, our troops once again headed off to battle. And once again, our young men and women - America's pride - knew exactly what they were there for...  
*...to guard and protect what is so very dear to them.*

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# How To Use VetNet For A Successful WWII REUNION

**V**ETNET can help make your group's World War II reunion one of the most memorable ever by making each task a little easier.

If you're a reunion coordinator, the first step is to determine if your outfit is already enrolled. VetNet began in June and more than 5,000 outfits had enrolled by July. Several hundred join each week. Call VetNet Directory Assistance 1-800-348-8387 if you are not certain if your group is enrolled.

Once your outfit is assigned a 5-digit VetNet number, you're ready to begin. Enrollments take about two weeks. We have been swamped with requests for VetNet's free post cards to notify each member of your outfit, so please be patient. If you asked for them, you will get them. We have already mailed 150,000, but we are still behind in meeting all the requests.

Coordinator calls to VetNet are free and they are our way of helping ease the financial burden of planning a reunion. Others in the group do pay \$1 per minute for their calls, but the average call lasts less than three minutes. Proceeds are used to support Legion programs.

Planning a reunion first involves deciding where and when to hold the event. You can use VetNet to survey group members. Ask them to leave their opinions about the most convenient location and the best time. Some will want to travel and make the reunion a vacation. Others will want to stay close to home to hold down costs and avoid the hassles of travel.

The next decision is how long to meet and what activities to plan. Three to four days is average for most reunions if the members are traveling long distances or haven't met for a while. Shorter reunions are best if the group has met recently or is not traveling very far to attend the gathering. Make sure to leave plenty of time for informal visiting. Don't over-schedule the events.

Most reunion attendees want to have plenty of time to visit. Side trips for spouses might be used to keep them occupied during slack times.

Always schedule at least one major

event, probably an evening dinner with dancing, where everyone who attends can be recognized. Give awards and special recognition to those who have made special efforts for the outfit. Observe a moment of silence for those who gave their lives in combat or who have died in recent years.

Remember that VetNet can help you with all phases of your reunion. Coordinators can post the latest information every day and can keep those attending aware of the latest plans.

VetNet has already helped dozens of veterans locate their old outfits with VetNet's MailCall feature. Use VetNet to find buddies or missing comrades by leaving them a personal message.

VetNet's Travel Desk is ready to help advise planners and coordinators with airline, hotel, bus, catering and all hospitality aspects of reunion services. There's no charge for the advice. A call to VetNet Directory at 1-800-348-8387 gets the ball rolling.

Some coordinators ask their members to use VetNet for reunion sign ups. Call 1-900-773-8387 to let your coordinator know you will attend the next reunion.

Last minute changes are the biggest headache faced by most reunion planners. One coordinator's call to VetNet passes the word to all other members of the outfit who call in. VetNet is a great way to make last-minute changes and let everyone know about them.

Messages from group members who miss the reunion can be left in MailCall for others to hear or for coordinators to transcribe and report to the group. Call 1-900-773-8387 to leave your message. Remember, if you don't know the outfit's VetNet number, call 1-800-348-8387.

MailCall, one of the best features of VetNet, allows members to maintain contact with each other after the reunion is over.

VetNet will help you plan and hold your reunion, locate old buddies and keep in touch throughout the year, not just at reunion time. At \$1 per minute, the average call costs \$3. It's an economical way to stay in touch on a regular basis. □

# In Celebration of Their Courage...

## OUTFIT REUNIONS

To obtain VetNet enrollment forms, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to VetNet, THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Unit names are published only one time per unit per year, but you can obtain information on units at any time by calling VetNet Directory Assistance, 1-800-348-8387.

## Army

105th Cav, 32nd Inf. Div., 2nd Recon, Trp. A (ANG) 21530  
 106th Station Hospital 16288  
 108th Inf., F Co. (WWII) 16022  
 1258th Combat Engr. Bn., B Co. - (WWII) 15441  
 156th Inf., Co F, & 68th, 74th MP Cos (1940-45) 21602  
 16th Cav., E & F Trps. 16538  
 172nd Inf. Rgt., 43rd Div., F Co. 20647  
 21st General Hospital 16666  
 226th AAA S/L Bn, Btry C 22232  
 25th Replacement Dpt. Okinawa/Camp Stoneman (WWII) 15711  
 29th Inf Rgt 22236  
 29th Station/170th Evac. Hospitals 16124  
 303rd Inf., 97th Div., Anti-Tank Co. - (WWII) 16321  
 32nd Vets Assn. 22197  
 334th Station Hospital 20721  
 346th Ord. Dpt. Co. 15609  
 355th Engr Rgt 22208  
 386th AAA AW Bn. 16734  
 38th Engr. Rgt. (C) 16637  
 3rd BN., 343rd Inf., 86th Div. HQ. Co. 10131  
 3rd Chemical Warfare Lab Co. - (WWII) 16465  
 40th Armor, C Co 21471  
 702nd TD Bn., C Co. 16323  
 7th F.A. Obsn. Bn. 15605  
 822nd Tank Destroyer Bn. (WWII) 15247  
 97th Gen. Hospital (WWII) 20637  
 9th Signal Co., 9th Div (WWII) 22193  
 POWS, Oflag-64 22220

## Navy

114th NCB/627th/628th/629th CBMUs 17323  
 ComTransDiv 13 14686  
 Manicani Island Assn., Philippines (1945-46) 17289  
 MCB-2 14670  
 Pres Yacht USS Williamsburg (1945-52/Including White House Personnel)  
 Sampson NTS-Unit E, Co 333 (1943) 22216  
 USS Anthoned AS-24 (WWII) 17401  
 USS Anzio CVE-57 22069  
 USS Asheville PF-1 22044  
 USS Columbus CA-74/CG-12 - (1944-76/Including Marines) 18362  
 USS Density 21621  
 USS Devastator AM-318 21527  
 USS Electra AKA-4 21217  
 USS John C. Butler DE 339 17821  
 USS Kleinsmith APD-134 17978  
 USS Laws DD-558 Assn. 21614  
 USS LCS (L) 1-130 Assn. 17604  
 USS Leedstown APA-56 18353  
 USS Lutze DD-481 21538  
 USS LSM-44 17784  
 USS LST-1018 21601  
 USS LST-49 Assn. 18581  
 USS LST-603 18088  
 USS LST-637 21606  
 USS Mack DE-358 18468  
 USS Notable MSO-460 17689  
 USS O'Brien DD-725 21597  
 USS PC-574 20421  
 USS Pitt APA-223 18196

Please turn to page 108

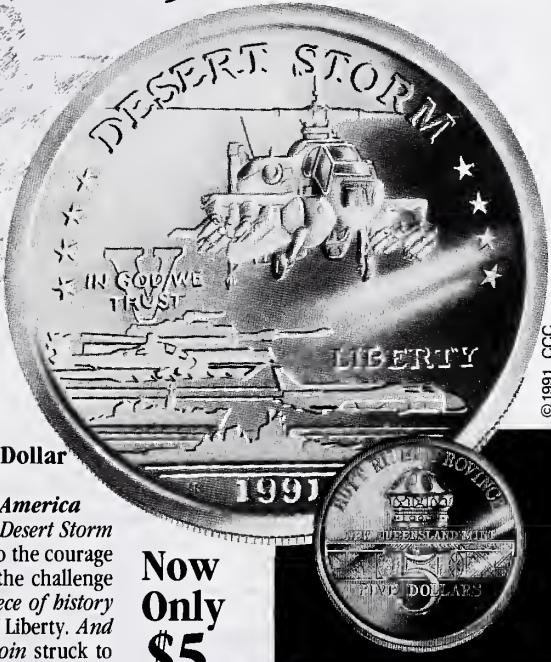
## VETNET NUMBER CHANGES

The VN numbers for four units that were published in the July issue have been changed. The units and their new VN numbers are:

Acorn 45, 14382.  
 322nd Inf. Rgt., 81st Inf. Div., C Co., 10925  
 USS McConnell DE-163, 17427  
 873rd Engr. Bn., 14042

# DESERT STORM \$5 DOLLAR COIN

*The World's First Legal Tender Coin To Honor the Brave Men & Women of Desert Storm!*



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\$5

Reverse, shown much smaller than actual size.

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- Vaughn Monroe: Pistol Packin' Momma
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- Eddy Howard: To Each His Own
- Frankie Lane: That's My Desire
- Freddy Martin: Prisoner of Love
- Bob Crosby: Zip-a-dee-doo-dah
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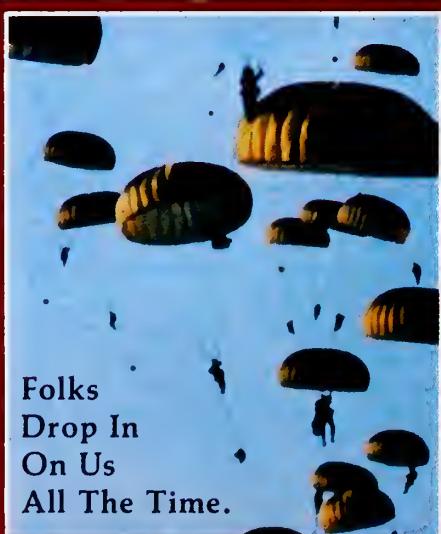
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## 'I WANT YOU'

*Continued from page 26*

Army, racially segregated in those days, at Fort MacArthur, Calif., washing pots and pans. "They gave me a broom-handle and a WWI uniform and told me to 'go to it.' Being drafted turned out to be the best thing that ever happened to me." He spent the war in the United States, in Army Air Corps logistics and contracting. "The largest thing I ever flew was an L.M.D.—a large, mahogany desk," Pollack said.

Ben C. Borowiecki of Chicago was drafted into the infantry, "absolutely not my first choice." He trained in the dust and mud of Camp Phillip, Kan. and became a military policeman. His first detail was near Casablanca, North Africa, guarding prisoners. "I didn't see Humphrey Bogart," he said, "but I did get to see Bob Hope and some chorus girls."

**P**ETER A. Despart, La Puenta, Calif., was awakened by reporters with the news that his No. 158 had been the first number plucked. They dressed him in an Army helmet and snapped his photo for the next day's newspaper. When he was inducted at Fort MacArthur, the Army equipped him with more make-believe martial material: a wooden gun.

Col. D. J. Renneisen (Ret.), of Jasper, Ind., said that being No. 158 was "the only lottery I've ever won." He was sent to Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis, Ind., then to Fort Thomas, Ky., across the river from Cincinnati.

"I thought we had a great Thanksgiving turkey dinner at Fort Thomas," Renneisen said. "However, half the men in my group came down with stomach sickness; coming from a family of 18 kids, I wasn't too picky about the food. Our first issue of uniforms included some leftovers from World War I and the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps). We were ashamed to be seen in town in the garb. We pretty much accepted the fact that we would be back home within the year."

Renneisen didn't get back to Jasper for 35 years, having decided to make the Army his career.

Although many didn't agree with the draft, when their number came up, they answered the call. But the nation had no problem in filling the ranks with volunteers after the morning of Dec. 7, 1941. □

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# VETNET

*Continued from page 105*

USS Ringgold DD 500 18328  
 USS Roper DD-147/APD-20 22189  
 USS SC-520 - (WWII) 10069  
 USS Scabbardfish SS-397 21534  
 USS Taluga AO 62 - (WWII) 18107  
 USS Wayne APA 54 18363  
 USS YMS-405 22105  
 USS YMS-427 22109  
 VPB-122 14650  
 VPB-74 17927

## Air Force

309th TCG (Drux, France/1956-58) 21613  
 374th Food Sv. Sq. 15088  
 50th Air Service Sq 22185  
 99th Ser Sq, 84th Ser Grp, 365th Ftr Grp (WWII) 21506  
 Air Force Security Police Assn. 15159  
 Kaye Field/Columbus AFS/AFB, MS (including civilians) 21609

## Army Air Forces

132nd AAC Sq Orly Field, Paris (1946-47) 22041  
 13th Bomb Sq, 5th AF 22224  
 322nd Trp. Carrier Sq., 14th Transport Section, 14th AF (1942-45) 16786  
 356th Ftr. Grp 21629  
 405th Ftr. Sq., 371st Ftr. Grp 21546  
 410th Bomb Grp. Assn., 9th AF 20298  
 449th & 452nd Bomb Sq. 22212

## Marines

10th AA Defense Bn. 17080  
 18th AAA (WWII) 21463  
 Cold Weather Trng Bn 22173  
 VMSB-243 21543  
 VMTB-131 21526

## Coast Guard

USS Cepheus AKA - 18 (WWII) 17042

## Miscellaneous

Warhawk Pilots Assn. 21630

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Readers who can help these veterans are urged to write a witness letter, including the CID number. Send the letters to CID, The American Legion Magazine, Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

Notices are published only at the requests of American Legion Service Officers representing claimants, using Search for Witness Forms available from Department Legion Service Officers.

**Merchant Marine ship SS Edward W. Burton Darwell**  
 D. Yeager needs witnesses to verify while serving as bosun aboard the ship on the Seine River, Rouen, France, on Dec. 16, 1945, he was hoisted up the mast when his leg was caught in a cable after the starboard boom 4 hatch fell. Contact CID 1316.  
**Svc Co., 180th Inf. Rgt., 45th Inf. Div. Walter Roberts**  
 needs witnesses to verify that while on the Korean front lines during Oct. 1952 to July 1953 he suffered frozen feet and hearing loss. Contact CID 1317.

# GREEN MACHINE

*Continued from page 86*

had enjoyed repeated extensions since their 1941 issuance, reached final maturity on May 1, 1981.

The EE Bond was attractive to small savers because it sold for just half its face value: A \$50 bond could be had for \$25, instead of \$37.50. But the government still had to come to grips with another problem: competition. Americans had too many other investment opportunities, most of which were offering a higher return. People who once had bought savings bonds were now buying CDs and opening money market accounts. "We were not keeping pace," admitted Villalpando.

That changed in November 1982, when the treasury unveiled its innovative variable-rate program. The newest series of EE Bonds would have market-based rates, adjusted at six month intervals. The program also offered a guaranteed minimum rate to protect buyers against market downturns. This allowed bond buyers to "gamble" without the risk of a downside.

The variable rate program, which debuted at a whopping 11 percent, was an instant success. "At the beginning of the 1980s, our sales were in the \$4 billion range," Kimmerly said. "Ever since we went to the variable rate, sales have been in the \$7 billion to \$8 billion range." Today's issues, when held to maturity, earn 85 percent of the average yield on five-year treasury certificates; at present, bonds are paying 7.19 percent. Those seeking current income can choose HH Bonds, which pay a semiannual dividend.

No doubt the savings-and-loan crisis also has had something to do with the resurgence of bond buying. "When people get nervous, they turn to savings bonds," Kimmerly said. "It's a reflection of trust in the government."

Unfortunately, the message still isn't reaching some people. Only 28 percent of Americans own bonds.

But it's only a matter of time, if Villalpando has anything to say about it. Her recent consciousness-raising tour included commemorative events at the Alamo and other patriotic shrines; she said she is committed to getting the word out. As for private citizens who want to help, said Villalpando, "The best thing you can do is remind your friends about the program."

And obviously, buy more bonds! □

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As soon as we could, we turned in our tanks for station wagons crowded with Boy Scouts

. . . and our armored personnel carriers for vans filled with American Legion Baseball teams. Sure, we still wear the old service cap when we walk the halls of Congress, or get together at a post meeting. But even that comes off on Memorial Day.

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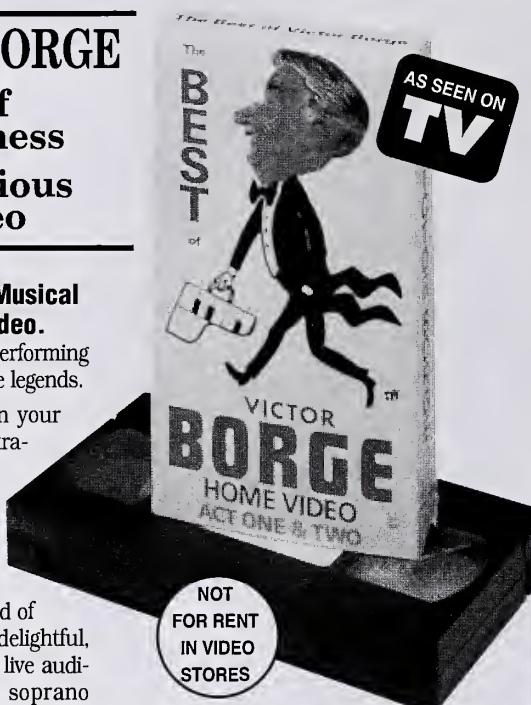
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### ABOUT THE ARTIST

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# 1943

Continued from page 58

fought a delaying action while withdrawing across the Straits of Messina to Italy. By mid-August, Sicily was in Allied hands. (And Patton survived the sensationalized soldier-slapping incident which nearly ended the general's career before his public apology on Eisenhower's orders.)

The next Allied objective was Italy, now in political turmoil after the overthrow of Benito Mussolini by fellow fascists eager to leave the Axis and the war. On Sept. 3, the British crossed the straits to Italy. Six days later, the U.S. 5th Army under Gen. Mark Clark landed at Salerno, south of Naples, where they ran into fierce German resistance. After the new government in Rome surrendered to the Allies on Sept. 8, Hitler rushed 13 divisions deep into Italy. But the Americans, backed by air and naval support, held at Salerno and as reinforcements arrived, battled northward to take Naples on Oct. 1. Before retreating, the Germans razed much of the famous old city, leaving its vital port choked with scuttled ships. But within a month, U.S. Army engineers had the debris cleared and the harbor open. By now, however, the Allied advance was stalled by German defenses and winter storms that turned battlefields into vast mud traps.

In the Pacific, the United States launched major offensives against the Japanese on two broad fronts. Combined U.S. and Australian forces under MacArthur in June began a drive northward in New Guinea and through Biak and the Solomon Islands route toward the Philippines. Meanwhile, in the Central Pacific, naval, air and land forces under the command of Adm. Chester Nimitz struck Japanese-held islands and atolls in the Gilberts, Marshalls, Marianas and Bonins, leap-frogging heavily defended enemy bases to hit vulnerable stepping stones to Tokyo.

For MacArthur's men, the going was slow and painful. Many Japanese forces mounted suicide *banzai* charges. As the Americans closed in on the key Japanese base at Rabaul on New Britain, combatants fought in torrential rains, knee-deep mud and tangled mangrove, and had to contend with giant leeches, scorpions and ever-present malaria and "jungle rot." All this plus an enemy that fought to the death.

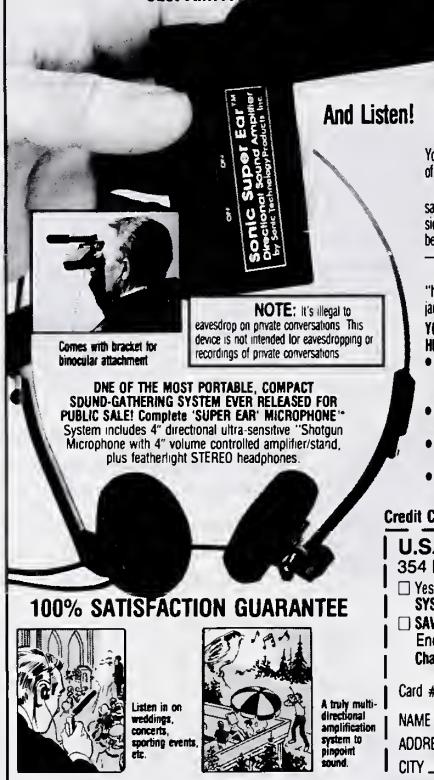
By contrast, most naval and air engagements were swift and decisive.



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# 1944

Continued from page 70

commander, Erwin Rommel. He was in Germany, pleading for reinforcements and warning: "The war will be won or lost on the beaches."

Allied invasion forces soon were moving on their first target, the port of Cherbourg. Lt. Gen. Omar Bradley, the U.S. 1st Army Commander, had set a 30-day deadline for Cherbourg's capture. It fell in 20 days.

By early July, the Allies had landed 1 million men and more than a half a million tons of supplies—enough, by one estimate, to fill a freight train 190 miles long. On Bradley's 40-mile front were 15 divisions; Montgomery had 16 divisions in the Anglo-Canadian sector. On July 10, after 34 days of bitter fighting, British and Canadian troops captured a portion of Caen, but the city was not secured for another 10 days. Elsewhere, the tenacious enemy had regrouped and contained the Allies within a relatively small corner of Normandy. Worse, Allied tanks were all but immobilized by great hedgerows that crisscrossed the countryside. The crisis was overcome by U.S. Army Sgt. Curtis Culin. Using steel spikes salvaged from the Germans' underwater obstacles along the beaches, Culin fashioned sharp cutters, or "tusks," enabling the tanks to quickly slice through the thick hedgerows.

After a furious bombardment July 25 by 1,800 British-based aircraft, the key road junction of St. Lo fell to a six-division assault led by Gen. J. Lawton "Lightning Joe" Collins, the VII Corps commander. The Normandy breakout followed. Gen. Patton's 3rd Army tanks now were racing south through Brittany at a 40-mile-a-day clip, later wheeling eastward toward Germany.

Convinced that only a negotiated surrender could save the Reich, a small group of German officers on July 20 tried to assassinate Hitler by planting a bomb at a staff meeting in the Führer's East Prussian headquarters. But the blast only wounded Hitler. The conspirators were caught and hanged. Also implicated was Rommel. In secrecy, the famous field marshal was offered poison, or disgrace and execution. He took the poison, dying a hero still.

Driven still by an increasingly irrational Hitler, the Wehrmacht continued fighting—and losing. On Aug. 25, Paris was liberated by the U.S. 1st

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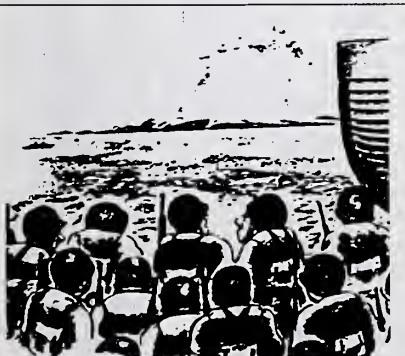
Also available in Canada © 1991 Garden Way Inc.

Army and the Free French, with help from the Paris underground. Gen. Charles de Gaulle led a victory parade down the Champs Elysees, followed four days later by a march down the same boulevard by the U.S. 28th Infantry Division—en route to the front.

After landing on the French Riviera, the U.S. 7th Army and the Free French 1st took Marseilles and drove north to join other Allied forces. The British and Canadians crossed into Belgium, capturing Brussels in early September. Their ultimate targets were the prized port of Antwerp and the capture of Hitler's V-1 and V-2 rockets, now inflicting death and injuries in England. In late September, the Allies staged the largest airborne attack ever attempted, dropping three paratroop divisions from 4,500 planes and gliders into Holland to seize key bridges for Montgomery's infantry and armor. But the costly operation failed to meet its major objectives, as recounted in the postwar book and movie, *A Bridge Too Far*. Nonetheless, to the south, elements of the U.S. 1st Army under Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges crossed the Luxembourg border and penetrated a short distance into Germany.

Hitler now gambled the last of his army's reserves in a final desperate venture: an all-out counteroffensive through Belgium's Ardennes Forest to retake Antwerp and cut the Allied armies in two. Eisenhower now had 65 divisions covering a 500-mile front from the North Sea to Switzerland. But ready reserves were few, especially in the Ardennes, which had been relatively quiet. On Dec. 16 before dawn, 24 German divisions—250,000 men—spearheaded by the Panzers' heaviest tanks—struck west into the Ardennes, catching the Allies completely by surprise. Within a week, the drive had stabbed 65 miles into the Allied lines

*Please turn page*



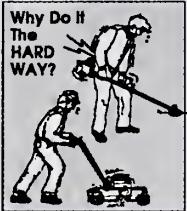
"So that's France, huh?  
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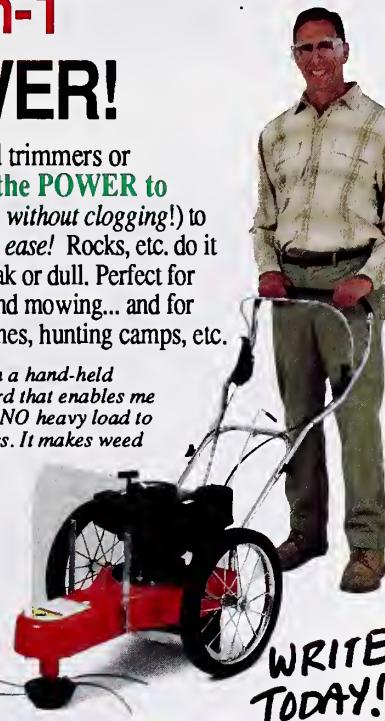
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*on my mind*

over a 40-mile wide front. Thick clouds and fog kept Allied aircraft grounded.

Best remembered hero of the Battle of the Bulge, as it became known, was Brig. Gen. Anthony (Tony) McAuliffe. His 101st Airborne troops, though cut off and vastly outnumbered in the Bel-

gian town of Bastogne, withstood nine days of savage enemy attacks before Patton's tanks broke through from the south on Christmas Day. A small war museum in Bastogne is named after McAuliffe's one-word reply to the German commander's demand for surrender: "Nuts!"

With the arrival of reinforcements and flying weather, the Germans were turned back. By Day 11, the battle was over. Hitler's great gamble had failed, and the Wehrmacht was retreating to the Rhine.

Half a world away in the Pacific, Germany's ally, Japan, also fell back before converging U.S. offensives—Gen. MacArthur from the south, Adm. Nimitz from the east. Moving into the Marshall Islands, an invasion force of 41,000 U.S. soldiers and Marines captured Kwajalein after a week-long battle in which 372 Americans were killed as against more than 8,000 Japanese. The United States had learned the vital importance of coordinated and sustained pre-invasion bombardments. Next to fall was Eniwetok atoll. Truk, Tokyo's so-called Gibraltar, was softened up by heavy aerial attacks that destroyed key Japanese military installations. The islet of Peleliu, honeycombed by some 500 fortified caves, fell after a month of horrendously bloody battling that left 6,700 Americans dead or wounded. All 11,000 Japanese defenders died.

In June, a massive invasion of the Mariana Islands began. Saipan, Japan's most important Pacific colony, fell after three bloody weeks. U.S. casualties numbered 14,000; Japan had 28,000 killed, not including hundreds of Japanese civilians who committed mass suicide. Tinian and Guam were taken in late July, but again only after bitter and costly conflict. Soon, however, America's long-range B-29 Superfortresses would be hammering the Japanese homeland itself from newly built bases in the Marianas. In Tokyo, Premier Tojo resigned in shame.

U.S. carrier forces now ruled the Western Pacific. On June 19-20, in the Battle of the Philippine Sea near Guam, the Japanese lost 395 carrier planes.

As the Allies closed in on the Philippines, a U.S. task force darted northward to strike the Bonins, a group of Japanese islands only 600 miles south of Japan. On Sept. 2, a torpedo bomber from the *USS San Jacinto* was hit by anti-aircraft fire. The burning plane managed to complete its bombing run before crashing into the sea. Two crew members were killed, but the pilot bailed out and was rescued by an American submarine. He was Navy Lt. George Bush.

In an attempt to halt the drive, the Japanese threw the remainder of their seapower into action in the Battle of Leyte Gulf, Oct. 23-26. It was the largest naval engagement in history, involving nearly 300 warships and hundreds of aircraft. Despite repeated kamikaze attacks by Japanese pilots, the United States lost only one light carrier, two escort carriers, and three destroyers. The Japanese lost almost their entire fleet. □

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# SOMEBODY TALKED

*Continued from page 52*

America at war. But even after he established the OWI in June 1942, the disharmony lingered. A split soon opened within OWI about how to rally support for America.

Many of OWI's writers and artists quit in a huff in 1943, charging that the agency had come under the control—as one writer alleged—of “high pressure promoters who prefer slick salesmanship to honest information.” Director Elmer Davis angrily denied the charge, and wrote, “You cannot do much with people who are convinced that they are the sole authorized custodians of truth.”

The debate was between two patriotic, anti-fascist camps, according to historian Winkler. One group, consisting of speechwriters and journalists, wanted to promote grand, pro-democracy, anti-fascist visions. The second group were American businessmen who wanted to motivate Americans to buy war bonds, turn in surplus rubber and do what had to be done to win the war. The second group took command at OWI when the writers resigned. But within a short time, Congress wrote the final chapter. Fearing the OWI could become a propaganda vehicle for Roosevelt and help him run for a fourth term, federal legislators cut the budget for OWI's domestic branch and it died.

Foreign information services such as the Voice of America survived the war. But, said Winkler, silencing the voices directed at domestic America “marked the last time ideological propaganda was produced for the home market.” □



*“I’m just not happy here.”*

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ferees, among other matters, discussed the unfinished war against Japan.

On the shrinking Pacific front, the Japanese were firing their final shots. In early January, the U.S. 6th Army landed on the main island of Luzon in the Philippines. By nightfall Jan. 9, some 68,000 troops were ashore, with reinforcements pouring in. After a

month of savage fighting, the American flag flew again in Manila.

On Corregidor, where the Americans had made their last stand three years before, Allied parachutists now dug the last of the Japanese out of the tunnels where Gen. Wainwright had surrendered. In early March, MacArthur returned to Manila, proclaiming: "Hoist the colors and let no enemy ever haul them down." Allied landings on Mindinao ended the occupation of the Philippines by as many as 400,000 Japanese troops.

In Burma on the Asian mainland, the long guerrilla war was winding down.

In January 1945, after two years of battling disease, hunger and the enemy, Gen. Joseph W. "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell's 478-mile Ledo Road to China lay finished. Winding over mountains and through dense jungle canyons, the road was a monument to U.S. engineering and Chinese labor. A substitute for the original Burma Road captured by the Japanese, it also was a welcome alternative to flying supplies from India over the treacherous Himalayan "hump." Within weeks, Stilwell's new road had hastened the Japanese retreat from Burma.

In the South Pacific, Japanese forces in increasing numbers were cut off on islands bypassed by the Allies. Many would not emerge until years later, some thinking the war was still on. On Feb. 19, more than 30,000 battle-hardened Marines stormed ashore on Iwo Jima, a volcanic speck in the East China Sea just 750 miles from Tokyo. Targeting Iwo was critical: Its two airfields were Japanese fighter bases that posed great danger to U.S. B-29 operations, and in American hands, they could become U.S. bases for the assault on Japan. After five weeks of desperate and bloody battling for every yard of the island's sulfuric sand and ash, a Marine patrol raised the famous American flag atop Mt. Suribachi. But it was not until days later that the last of the enemy had been rooted out of its five-foot thick concrete bunkers. More than 5,000 Marines paid the ultimate price, and another 20,000 were wounded. All but a handful of the 21,000 Japanese were killed.

As a measure of the battle's intensity, 19 of the 24 U.S. battalion commanders were killed or wounded. And a record total of 26 Medals of Honor were earned at Iwo. Dedicating a cemetery for fallen Marines, Gen. Graves Erskine said: "Let the world count our crosses!" It was a cry of pride and of anguish. But now, B-29s from the Marianas were striking Japan at an increased pace and with fewer losses.

On March 22, Adm. Raymond A. Spruance's Fifth Fleet opened a massive, 10-day bombardment of Okinawa, largest of Japan's Ryukyu Islands and last major stepping stone to Tokyo. The ensuing battle was epic: Hundreds of *kamikaze* pilots dove their planes into the largest U.S. fleet ever assembled in the Pacific—1,000 warships bearing 180,000 soldiers and sailors and Marines. Thirty-six of the American ships were sunk, another 368 damaged. But now it was the United States' turn.

On April 1, waves of American troops poured ashore. Within three weeks they

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human side of war and survival as told from the individual perspectives of those who lived it. It is hosted by Col. Charles MacDonald (U.S. Army Ret.), a master story teller, famous WW II historian and author of "Company Commander," "A Time for Trumpets" and eight other major World War II books. Col. MacDonald lived it with the others as the commander of an Infantry rifle company on the front lines in the Ardennes and himself was awarded the Silver Star and Purple Heart for wounds suffered in the Battle of the Bulge. "December Dawn" is Col. MacDonald's last major work before his death. "December Dawn" is the moving graphic story of courage, fear and outrageous personal triumphs of the men who fought a battle that far was larger and more important than any of them could comprehend, then and even now.

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had captured most of the island. Yet, the Japanese defended to the death the 85-square miles they still held in the south. Fighting continued for another month until the defenders finally began committing mass *hara-kiri*. Okinawa had been the biggest single battle of the Pacific, with more than half a million Americans of all services involved. It was one of history's greatest amphibious assaults.

The casualties were chilling. The Japanese lost more than 100,000; the United States suffered 12,500 KIA and 36,500 wounded—the heaviest single U.S. battle loss of the Pacific war.

Throughout the war, the greatest scientific minds of the day—Allied and Axis—had been exploring the secrets of the atom. In the summer of 1945, atomic power was about to help end the war. On the morning of Aug. 6, 1945, the Superfortress "Enola Gay" flew over Hiroshima, population 343,000. An awesome flash of light was followed by a giant mushroom cloud. Over half the city was incinerated; 78,000 persons were killed, 10,000 others were never found, and many of the 37,000 injured would die later from radiation.

Stalin, who had known of the bomb, reacted quickly: Within 48 hours he declared war on Japan. When the Japanese High Command failed to heed Washington's call for surrender, a second atomic bomb destroyed most of Nagasaki. Defending his decision to drop the A-bombs, former President Truman some years later said (told this correspondent) that had it been necessary to invade Japan it would have pro-

longed the war for many months and cost an estimated 1 million or more lives on both sides.

On Sept. 2, Prime Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu came aboard the *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay to sign the surrender papers. Moments later, a ray of sunlight broke on deck, and 400 Superfortresses roared over the Japanese capital in a salute to victory and to peace.

Sixteen million Americans had worn uniforms during the war, 216,000 of them women. Men in combat numbered 1.75 million; 292,131 were killed in action. Monetary costs of the war have

been variously estimated at well over 1 trillion dollars.

Years later, President Eisenhower would say of the war: "The true hero is G.I. Joe—the soldier, the sailor, the Marine, the airman, and their counterparts in the Merchant Marine." Heroic also were the Gold Star mothers, war widows, and others who remained steadfast on the home front.

Was it worth it? An answer came from an American soldier after viewing a liberated Nazi death camp. "War is hell," he said, "but there are some things worse than combat." □

## TAPS

**Taps Notices** mention, whenever possible, those Legionnaires who have held high national or department office in the Legion or the U.S. government, or who have attained other forms of national prominence.

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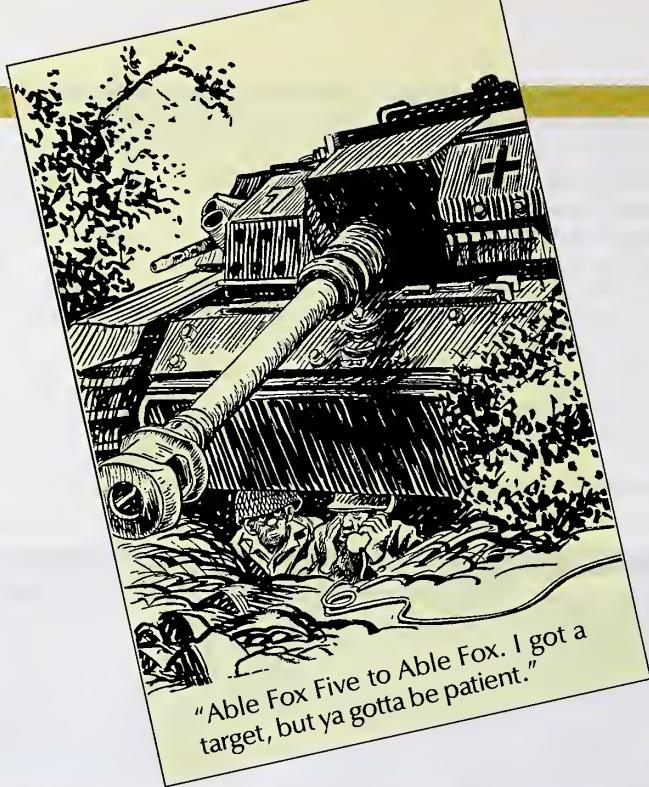
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## JOURNEY

Continued from page 32

clutching the side of a wall was drawn by GIs on buildings, latrines, fences, sidewalks, ships and on captured enemy weapons and equipment. The message was "Kilroy was here."

### ► DOG TAGS

Every recruit faced the chilling realism of what could happen to him in war when he was issued his dog tags. The tag included the GI's name, serial number (today it's the Social Security number), blood type, religion, date of initial tetanus shot, and name and address of next of kin. Later, next-of-kin information was omitted.

### ► AT EASE

Though unofficial, it was virtually unanimous among servicemen that the best town for leave and liberty was Chicago, followed closely by New York, then San Francisco. There were hundreds of others, of course, but in these

cities theater tickets were available for the asking, USO centers couldn't do enough, and townspeople were quick with invitations. At stage door canteens, servicemen might find themselves handed a cup of coffee by Jack Benny or a doughnut by Dorothy Lamour.

### ► NOTHING LIKE A DAME

Nothing in the U.S. regulation manual provided for the one item that seemed most necessary for a man's well being. So, lacking the live article, soldiers substituted pinups. They plastered the doors of lockers, the walls of Quonset huts, even the insides of their helmet liners, with girlie pictures. Among the favorites were Rita Hayworth in a nightgown and Betty Grable in a bathing suit.

### ► RELOCATION CAMPS

Racism against the Japanese ran rampant after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Banks refused to cash their checks, grocers refused to sell them food, insurance companies cancelled policies. Wrote syndicated columnist Westbrook Pegler, "The Japanese in California should be under armed guard and to hell with *habeas corpus*." Fourteen months later, 110,000 Japanese-Americans were imprisoned in relocation centers. They lost assets valued at one half billion dollars. Still, they were subject to the draft, and 20,000 served in the U.S. Armed Forces during the war.

### ► WARTIME WARDROBE

First to go was the "Zoot Suit." Shaped with shoulders wide enough to land a plane, voluminous at the waist and pinched at the ankle, with deep pockets held by a chain, it used too much material. Women's skirts were shortened, belts not recommended, and hoods vetoed. Production was halted on zippers and fastenings, leading to a new style, the wraparound skirt. Silk stockings were rationed, three to a customer, and guards were stationed at department stores to quell riots.

### ► THE ENTERTAINERS

The war invaded every aspect of civilian life, and popular culture was no exception. Oscars went to *Mrs. Miniver*, *Casablanca*, and *Watch On The Rhine*. A new category of "hiss and boo" films

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developed: *Hitler's Gang*, *Diary of a Nazi*, and Walt Disney's *Der Führer's Face*. Popular songs were: *Goodbye Mama, I'm Off to Yokohama*, *You Belong to Me*, and *Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree*. Benny Goodman instituted the "Swing Era." And the world wept when Glenn Miller was killed in an Army Air Corps plane crash in December 1944. Cartoons and comic strips also commented on the war. Rosie the Riveter satirized women in the war effort. Superman, man of steel, was ruled 4-F because of his X-ray vision. During his induction physical, he read the eye chart in the next room by mistake.

### ► PLAY BALL

Bullets and bombs couldn't douse Americans' excitement for baseball. In 1942, the St. Louis Cardinals took the World Series from the New York Yankees. Next year the Yankees avenged the loss, winning four out of five from the Cardinals. The Cards won again in 1944, defeating the St. Louis Browns. And the year the Japanese surrendered, the Detroit Tigers roared to the championship against the Cubs. Americans' tendency to recall baseball statistics sometimes was used to test strangers suspected of being enemy infiltrators.

### ► DIRTY DANCING

Wild and frenetic, it wasn't exactly new to the 1940s, but jitterbugging was given a new lease on life when GIs brought it with them to England, where the young were thrilled by the opportunity to throw each other around the floor while keeping to the beat.

### ► THE HIT PARADE

When the cigarette company decided to change its pack from green to white, they announced "Lucky Strike Green has gone to war!" Few knew just what that meant, but the Lucky Strike Hit Parade was mandatory listening, and everyone prayed their favorite would hit the top.

### ► THE CHRONICLERS

Unofficial spokesman for the gripes of the Army enlisted man was Bill Mauldin, whose cartoons featured two sardonic, battle-grimed dogfaces named Willie and Joe, whose scraggly beards, bleary eyes and dented helmets summed up the agony of the infantryman (see page 118). George Baker's pathetically inept Sad Sack blundered

through the war in spite of his good intentions. Ernie Pyle went everywhere. He walked the shores of D-Day, steamed in the jungles of Okinawa and died reporting the war (see page 60).

### ► FAMILY TRAGEDY

Blue Star mothers watched their sons march off to war. Gold Star mothers never saw them return. Alleta Sullivan of Waterloo, Iowa, lost all five sons who served together aboard the Navy cruiser *USS Juneau*. The brothers died when

their ship was sunk by Japanese torpedoes near Guadalcanal on Nov. 13, 1942. A destroyer was later named in their honor, *USS The Sullivans*.

### ► RUPTURED DUCK

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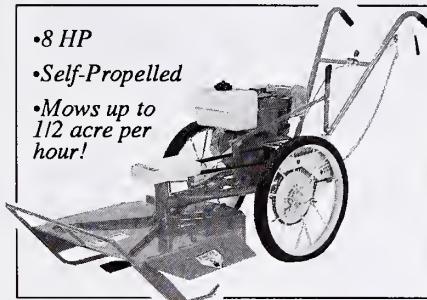
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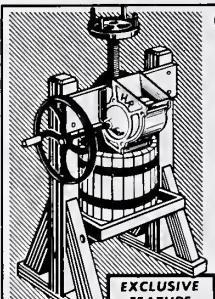
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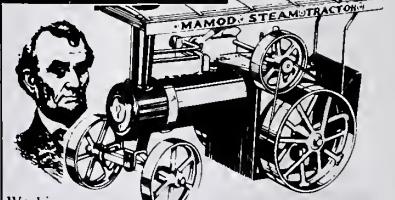
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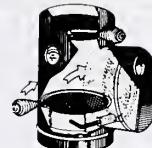
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